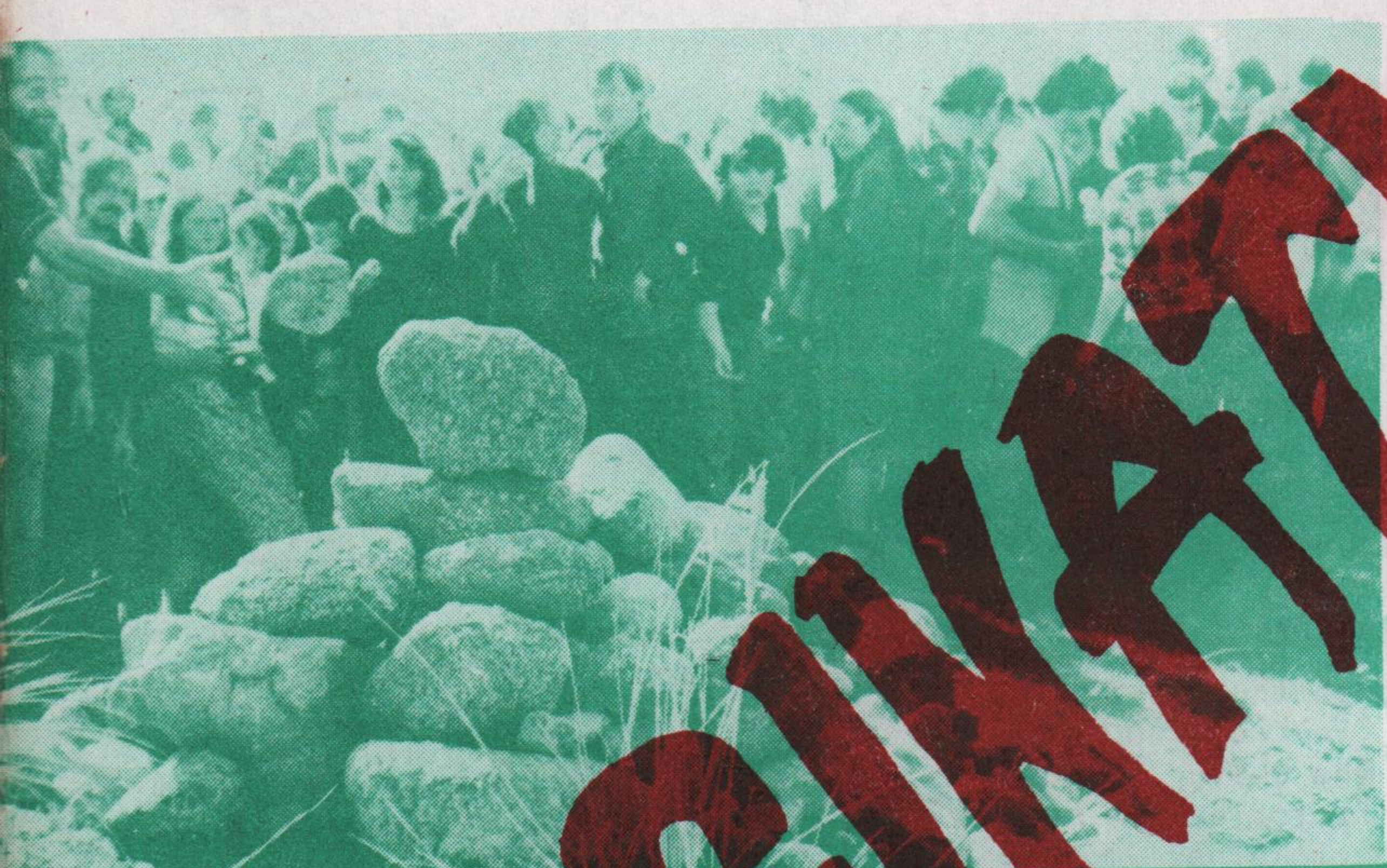


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IMAGINATION POWER

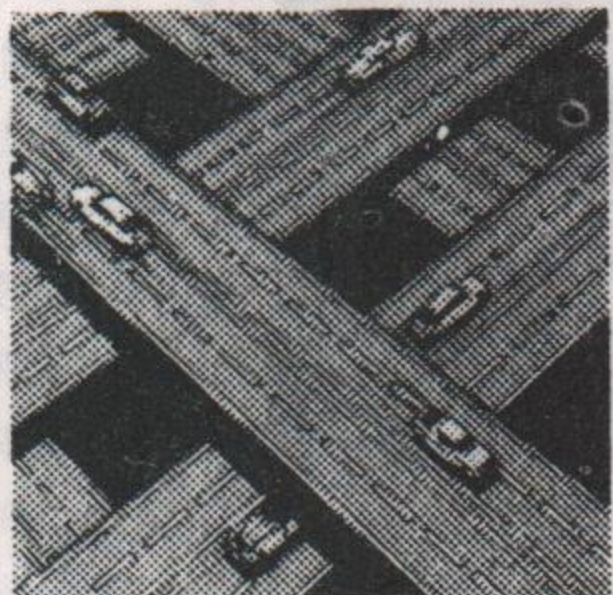
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No 29



Carnsore '80. A cause for celebration. 3 years of struggle- successful , dynamic, organising struggle . How many times they predicted the Movement was finished ? How many times they told us it was useless to continue for the State was *too strong*....or we were *too weak and divided* ? Then came the trendies who peddled the theory that ' We have won ' so why continueand most of them dropped off.' *Tired of politics* ' , ' *tired of Carnsore* ' , whatever the excuse . ' Veterans ' of a war that hasn't even begun. But the ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT is alive....and that's a cause for celebration.

What follows is an attempt to assess the experience of 3 years - the experience of the Movement and of RS inside it - to draw some lessons from our work. It is OUR attempt - not the only possible way to analyse the last 3 years. We will present this analysis to anti-nuclear militants we have invited from other countries....we will present it to the Irish anti-nuke movement during the Special Workshop we have organised for this purpose . Through Rebel we put it forward for debate....



Option

2

It is nearly 4 years since O'Malley, then Minister for Industry Commerce and Energy, requested the ESB's report on the *nuclear option*. That was Autumn 1977.

At that time, the dominant ideas among those who were opposed to nuclear power were the politics of the Nuclear Safety Association (NSA) in Wexford - who had been agitating for a number of years - and Friends of the Earth (FoE) who had re-organised in Dublin. Both were concerned at developing a *lobby of opposition*, legitimate and 'recognised' by the State .

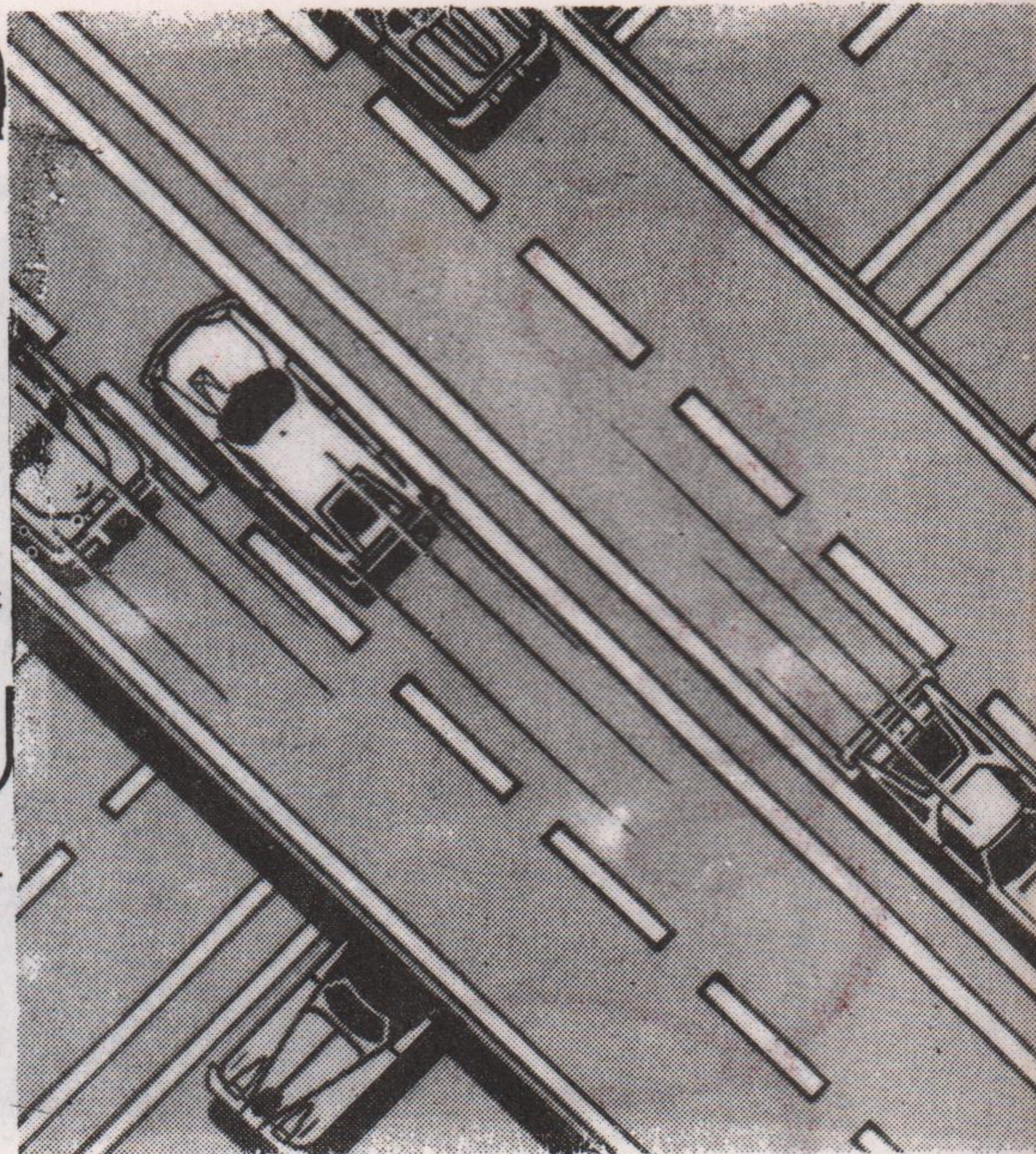
For RS, who became initially active *inside* FoE, the only guarantee that we could effectively stop nuclearisation was building a *national movement of opposition*. This was a lesson we drew from the international experiences of anti-nukes . We fought hard inside FoE for the building of a mass movement and with a number of younger and more militant people who left FoE with us , we helped organise the first national anti-nuclear show in Carnsore - August 1978. Over 25,000 people came to demonstrate their opposition in the free festival.that was our first little victory. The project FoE had qualified as *lunatic* only 2 months earlier. The local anti-nuclear groups were born....2 became 10 and 10 became 40 ; a fuse had been lit.

Debate

From the outset, an intense debate took place on the character and the objectives of our struggle. RS, from the very beginning, argued for a national mass movement, based on autonomous local groups and collectives. We fought for the principle of direct democracy and decision making mass assemblies every three months....of all those active against nuclear power. This form of organisation was vehemently opposed by the social-democratic forces within the movement who argued for *delegation and representativity* . In each and every occasion this issue came to a vote, the social - democrats suffered heavy defeats .

For many who became involved in the anti-nuclear movement and through the whole organic process

of opposition provided, for the first ever time in Ireland, a political *space* , an opportunity to meet others, to discuss, to air views, to exchange opinions and clear ideas - and not only about nuclear. AND TO FIGHT . Let us remind ourselves that this process



DARE TO HOPE

coincided with a period of a generalised *withdrawal from the institutionalised organs of politics* - Political Parties, Trade Unions and general Parliamentarism.

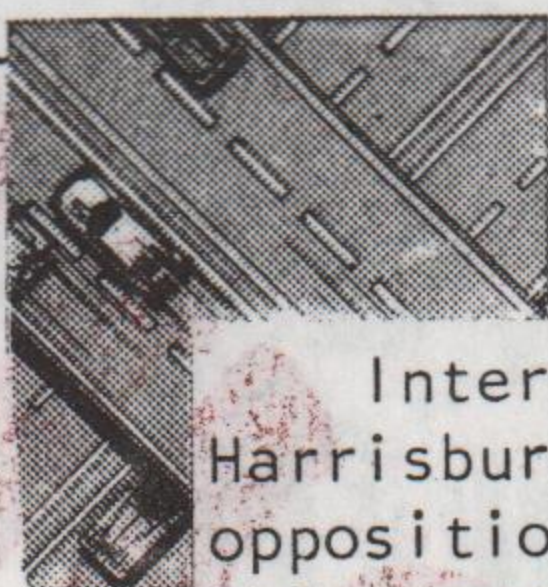
All through the winter of 78 and spring 79 in the schools, the communities, the Universities and even in some factories the movement grew....alive, imaginative, assertive, diffuse. Anti-nuclear information was gathered and disseminated, posters, leaflets, theatre, concerts, classroom debates, pickets, radio shows and demonstrations, followed one another.

The composition of the Movement was diverse. It crossed the border for a start - few mass organisations have succeeded doing this. Class composition varied from place to place - about three or four groups were based in working class communities in the Cities, others were in rural villages....some in regional towns, others in Universities. The activities and the politics of the various groups reflected their diverse social base. But the objective remained ONE and only one:

NO NUCLEAR POWER - NO WAY !!!

The mass activity of the militants of the Movement forced the *nationalisation* of the nuke issue . It was now discussed in womens organisations, Students Unions, professional bodies, Trade Unions, farmers organisations and no less the POLITICAL PARTIES.

Many people were forced to taking positions and - sometimes - into action. And in Spring '79 came the first concession by the State. In the Fianna Fail Ard Fheis , O'Malley conceded a *Public Enquiry* - something he had dismissed as a dreamland of the ' flatearthers ' only four months earlier. A stage had been reached....a new type of confrontation/dialogue was on the agenda.



Blow-ins

International events, especially Harrisburg , and overall anti-nuke opposition were an added element in this developing *dialectic* between the Free State and the Movement . O'Malley's concession, undeniably, provided a breather and an impetus for the *centrist* forces in the Movement....in the doldrums since Carnsore '78 they began re-asserting their demands for ' *Co-ordination* ' - a useful word designed to strengthen delegation and lobby-type Committees at the expense of mass democracy. While mass meetings continued to re-assert mass democracy , the ' delegate ' freaks used all conceivable argument under the sun.... from *efficiency* to ' legitimacy ' , from ' expertise ' to *representativity*. A delegate structure slowly evolved parallel to the mass meeting. Heavily circumscribed by FoE, SLP , CP and LP militants, it struggled to survive....and died its inevitable death without contributing an inch to the Movement.

But although incapable of asserting itself , it had a double effect: on the one hand, it demoralised many younger anti-nukes who had to be confronted one more time with the same brand of bourgeois politics they had tried to avoid. On the other hand it provided a sounding board for a most wretched type of *liberal individualism*, which began asserting all kinds of anti-organisational , anti-Movement diatribes. *Autonomy* , lived in the Movement as the active capacity of local groups to fight nuclear capital unfettered by centralism, was distorted to mean the most regressive and empty sloganeering against ' organisation ' , against ' mass meetings ' , against Carnsore, against the very idea of a national anti-nuclear Movement

Carnsore '79 had a momentary effect of stopping the bleeding - but very soon afterwards, the 3-way polarisation took root again. Seething sectarian attitudes took root; many comrades disgusted from the carry-on dropped off. A number of local groups disappeared.

But the general anti-nuclear feeling of the people in the 32 Cos grew....A survey carried out by RESEARCH SURVEYS of IRELAND in Spring'80 indicated that at least 60% of Irish people were opposed to nuclear power and another 25% had not yet made up their minds. The Movement had achieved a near-miracle and it didn't even know it.

Well aware of this volatile situation and fearing an added element of instability on top of the gathering clouds of economic recession, forced the State to further retreat by effectively calling a 2-year

A Concession

The Public Enquiry was a *concession won by the Movement*. As the first tangible evidence of success it created euphoria and an urgency to respond. In the intense debate which took place - and continues to take place - THREE main positions were developed:-

(i) The position which came to be defined as the *anarchist* position: that the Movement declare its intention to boycott the Enquiry which would obviously be a whitewash.

(ii) The position of FoE, most SLP, CP, LP and some PD militants who argued that the Movement declare its intention to participateand begin to campaign for a *democratic Enquiry*, involving, for example, wide representation of mass organisa-

Uranium

It is on the question of uranium exploration and eventual commercial exploitation of uranium that the pro-nuclear forces are attempting a counter-offensive in 1980. Badly shook by the anti-nuke movement, the pro-nukes attempted to recuperate lost ground by massively investing on the question of uranium. Having learnt that public confrontation with the fast-maturing anti-nukes was not in their favour, they attempted a rigid and solid 'intellectual' pro-uranium campaign, peppered with smears of the anti-nuclear/anti-uranium forces and highlighted by threats of physical intimidation. The swift response of the Movement surprised not only the State and the pro-nukes but also the *friends* of the Movement who had written us off by the Spring of 1980.

Local anti-uranium groups sprung up in Donegal, Thomastown Co. Kilkenny and agitation took place in the Allihies. In April a highly successful demonstration took place in Donegal - the biggest demonstration in Donegal this century on ANY issue. And when on the aftermath of the event the pro-death merchants discovered that a good part of their machinery and stuff had been burnt and damaged, the game was up. Uranium would have no easy passage - no easier than Carnsore.

THREE YEARS OF ANTINUCLEAR

halt to the nuclear plans in early summer 1980. This second retreat on the nuclear issue, coupled with a re-alignment on the issue of uranium exploration effectively ends the second stage of the anti-nuclear struggle in the 32 Counties.

tions, like Trade Unions etc., funding for the A-N Movement to put its case and access to TV and Radio.

We argued that the State was undoubtedly forced to concede the enquiry (which separated us from the anarchists in so far as they argued that it was a State ploy and no more). While it was true that the intelligent fractions of Fine Gael understood rather better than O'Malley what was at stake, for Fianna Fail the Public Enquiry was an obvious step-down and humiliation undoubtedly to be recuperated but a concession nonetheless. We argued that the response of the Movement should not be *principled* but FLEXIBLE and OPEN. Our perspective was that given the vagueness about dates, places, parameters etc. any 'position taking' by the Movement would be premature. We urged the use of different tactics - both limited participation and disruption not to ignore the Enquiry but neither to focus all our energies to it. To make the Enquiry ONE of MANY areas of confrontation without tying ourselves to its terms of reference or findings.

With the help of hindsight today it is possible to say that we were not wrong....the Enquiry is still on the long finger and if anything more doubtful than ever.

On and on

The peoples resistance to nuke capital has forced the struggle and the confrontation to a higher level. Ireland is unique in the EEC - the pro-nuke forces have met opposition before they have even established themselves.

We see as our task the extension and intensification of the opposition to take in not only the ENTIRE NUCLEAR CYCLE (uranium, plant, waste disposal, arms, continental repressive collaboration) but also the whole question of NOXIOUS industry and the destruction of the environment by the terrorism of capital. We do not intend to leave the field to the ecologists so that they can wreak havoc with the minds and energies of our people - we do not intend to 'concentrate' on so-called political issues and let social-democrats go to the Dail on a 'Green' ticket.....

We intend to fight inside a mass national opposition: against capital, its advanced as well as less advanced fractions. Against the terrorism of nuclear blackmail, the threat of uranium.....the destruction of our soil and future by noxious crap....the other side of super-profits.

We intend to struggle by all means necessary - by all energy and imagination at our disposal. We dare to struggle and - perhaps - dare to win.

NO OTHER WAY !!!

Blow-outs

At present, there is an undeniable confusion inside the Movement. The *individualist/libertarian* components have effectively dropped out of activity.....they are, of course, likely to return as soon as things 'sort themselves out'. The social-democratic and ecologist people are now concentrating more on *alternatives* - indeed the most illustrious of them have become Government advisors. And as the State has left the pro-nuclear argument to certain 'professional' organisations and State institutes, direct confrontation has become more difficult and the sense of urgency subsided.

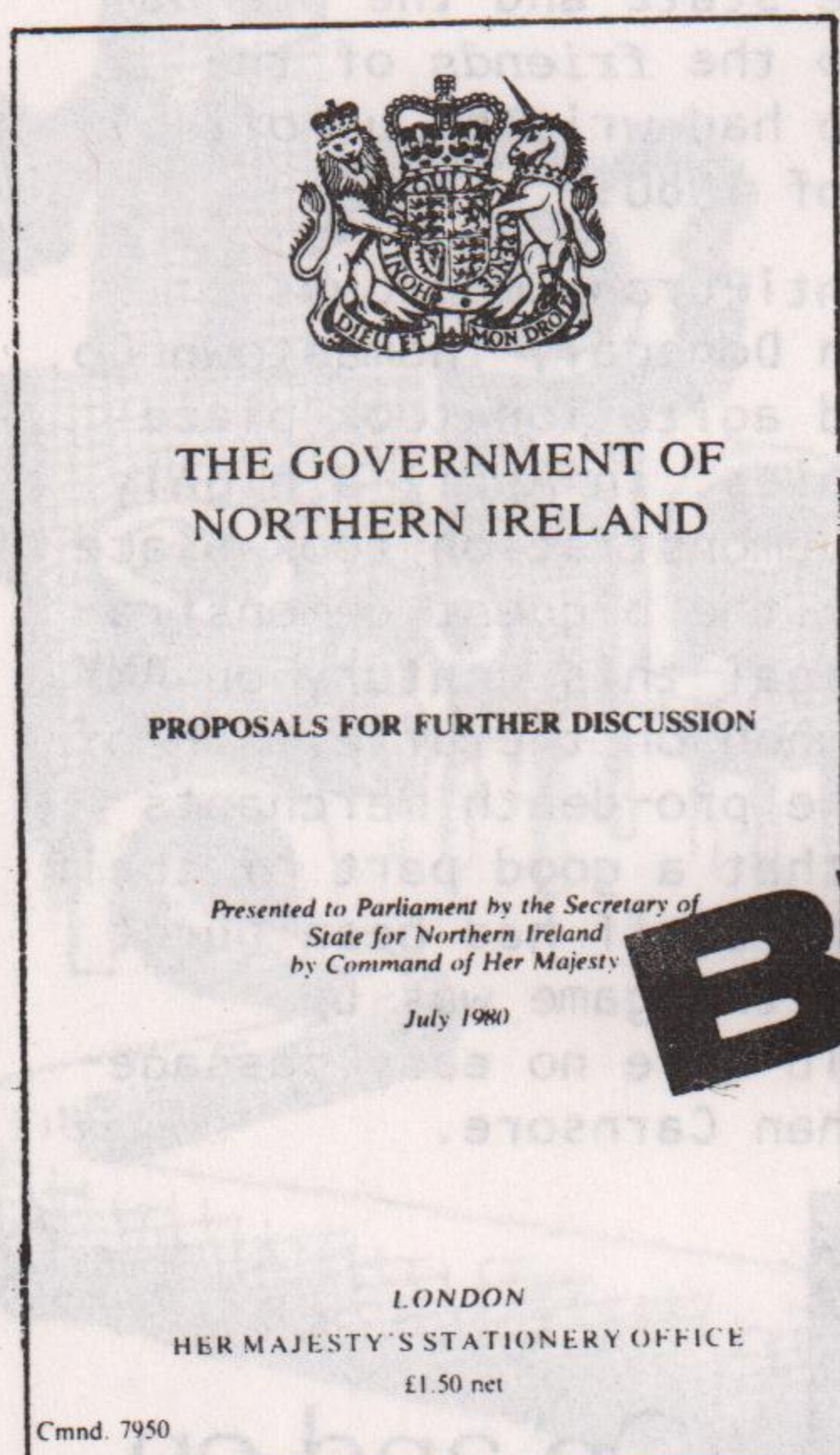
The initial excitement of mass numbers has been displaced by a deep-felt need for effective long-term STRATEGY....a need to ORGANISE the national anti-nuclear feeling and sentiment....a need to discuss with anti-nukes of other countries questions of strategy and method. The changes inside the ruling power bloc of FIANNA FAIL - the advent of Haughey -, the recession, the forthcoming elections are all factors in this restructured context.

Finally, there are two further outstanding elements in this debate: the lingering problem of the Public Enquiry and the developing struggle against uranium exploration and noxious industry.



'Weigh carefully what is at stake

4



BRITSPEAK

AT

C-HAU-KEY

“Northern Ireland needs peace from terrorist violence and reconciliation under a settled framework of government so that we can work together to rebuild our economy”

The leaflet goes on “But to achieve these aims Northern Ireland needs workable and stable institutions.

“Direct rule has done a great deal for the Province. But it's only a second best. People want to be able to seek local political responsibility by election.

“The divisions between the two communities in Northern Ireland have to be healed. Some institutions of Government need the support of both majority and minority communities. The Government can't force this on people so the will to work together must come from the people of Northern Ireland themselves.

“The difficulty in the past has been that there is a deep division of view within Northern Ireland. Some people want the link with the United Kingdom to be preserved; some want the Province united with the Republic of Ireland. It's hard to reconcile these views.

Under new political arrangements the majority community should feel confident that it will not be separated from the rest of the United Kingdom unless a majority agree; and the minority community feel they are free to pursue their own aspirations by peaceful means. A positive role for the minority community in arrangements for government in Northern Ireland is needed.

What the Government is putting forward for discussion is:

* The Secretary of State will remain responsible for law and order, for considering the total public expenditure requirement in Northern Ireland and for a number of other functions.

* There should be an extensive transfer of functions to an administration based on a single Province-wide Assembly.

* Election to the Assembly should be the single transferable vote form of proportional representation.

* The new Assembly and an Executive body derived from it should have responsibility over a range of subjects — agriculture, commerce, education, employment, environmental matters, including housing, health and social services. Existing Northern Ireland Departments would thus come under the Executive's control.

* The Assembly would have power to legislate on these subjects.

* Day to day direction of Departments would be the responsibility of members of the Executive who would act as heads of the Departments.

* There would be Departmental Committees of the Assembly to scrutinise actions of the Executive and report to the Assembly.

* There would be an Advisory Council in which the Secretary of State would consult leading members of an elected Assembly on his responsibilities.

* Existing safeguards and remedies against discrimination should be maintained.

The leaflet concludes: “THE Government urges: all sections of the Northern Ireland community to consider and discuss the proposals with an open mind.

“The key question is: How shall the Executive be formed?

“Two methods are proposed but neither will work without broad support from people in both communities; no system of locally elected government can be imposed in the absence of such support.

“It is the Government's hope that agreement can be reached on a system of government which will contribute to peace, reconciliation, stability and economic reconstruction in Northern Ireland.”

Northern Ireland today does not conform to the normal standards that prevail in Western Europe. Many of the characteristics which give Western democratic society its flavour and quality and make it a satisfying way of life for free men and women are missing in Northern Ireland. The reason... is that the political structures under which the community lives and through which it is expected to express its needs and requirements are inadequate... There are other parts of Europe where historical antagonisms have been inherited or where religious differences exist but which are not in a state of permanent instability because of these factors... Northern Ireland has been troubled now to a greater or lesser extent during the entire 60 years of its existence. There are tensions built into its very foundations that affect the whole structure of society there and erupt in violence from time to time...

Northern Ireland is not a natural geographical or historical unit. Its boundaries do not reflect any underlying reality of race or culture. They were in fact decided upon to create the largest possible unit in which people of unionist persuasion would have a permanent built-in majority... There could not be full identification (by the minority), such as exists in democracies everywhere, with the full process of government...

Northern Ireland is deindustrialising perhaps more rapidly than any other region in the European Community... and there is a deeper and more fundamental feeling of malaise in Northern Ireland which is not subject to measurement. A centre of instability on this island which occupies such a key geographical position is not in the best interest of the people of any part of Ireland, Britain or indeed the western world as a whole.... I would like to see the British Government modifying the present guarantee by adding a positive element... I have in mind that the Northern majority would be invited to look at unity as a prospect offering them great advantage... unity can only come about by negotiation and agreement... The people who regard their tradition as being far removed from ours would be surprised at the length to which we would be prepared to go to accommodate them...

Another failure now can damage the outlook for legitimate politics in Northern Ireland for a long time to come, destabilise society still further, and strengthen the role of violence... we must find some new relationship... so that we can move the problems of Northern Ireland out of the old rigidities, onto a new plane, where legitimate aspirations can be taken into account and promoted... I wish to eliminate the causes of antagonism and division and to encourage that which will promote understanding, friendship and co-operation.

C.J. Haughey
Dail Eireann

29 May 1980



Inside

In Mid-May two republicans started a hunger strike to draw attention to the way they were framed by the British and RUC and the sham nature of their subsequent trials and convictions. (for details see reprinted leaflets of the two Defence Committees).

The first man was MARTIN MEEHAN from the Ardoyne area of Belfast a well-known and respected Republican, the last man to be released from internment, and one whose opposition to the rule of the Brits needs no stressing. The other man was SEAMUS MULLAN, a small farmer from North Derry, also an ex-prisoner.

The tactic of the hunger strike is as old as Irish history. It is a double-edged weapon that in the past and even recently, has been used as a focus of opposition and HAS FORCED concessions from the British. But the price of a hunger strike is always high...Gaughan, Stagg and very recently Conlon were the victims of this political weapon whose most successful moment was in 1972 when Farrell and Cavanagh won political status in Crumlin Rd. jail.

As soon as Meehan's news got out a defence Committee was set up in Belfast. But it was eight weeks before any serious agitation started. By that time the seriousness of the situation had sunk in. The Brits were not going to give in, Meehan's condition was in a bad way, and Seamus Mullan, almost forgotten, was also in a wretched condition. It was at that point that some bitter behind-the-scenes disagreement immobilised a few people: some high rankin Republicans were arguing that Meehan should not be supported at all because he had broken discipline by going on hunger strike of his own bat....and even more to the point they felt that because he was seen by many in the H-Blocks as a ' leader ' his action may spark a mass hunger strike which may endanger the lives of many many prisoners.

Outside

This debate was soon sorted out it was agreed that, if the crunch came, Meehan would be supported. The first rally took place in the Falls Road on a Wednesday evening attended by about 800 people; the following Sunday about 2-3,000 marched. In other parts of the city, leaflets were distributed, slogans were painted on the walls. Pickets were mounted on RUC stations and in one instance people from the Markets crossed into East Belfast to support the picket at the RUC barrack in the Short Strand.

And still there was no giving in by the Brits - Meehan's condition deteriorated. Youths attacked the Springfield RUC barracks and in a couple of days the whole Falls - Broadway area became the scene of

intense rioting. Cars were hijacked, buses were set on fire....hundreds were roaring the streets according to Radio Downtown.

In the New Lodge, several hundred people tried to march on Crumlin Rd. Courthouse only to be prevented by Brits and RUC from leaving the ghetto. A number of Loyalists nearby waved banners saying ' Let Meehan die '. From somewhere we heard a report that he was in fact dead...nobody could verify or deny the news. The effect was electrifying. People swarmed out into the streets discussing the events - that night there was fighting throughout the city.

The following day Meehan ended his fast after 66 days - eight of them without liquids. Protests continued for Mullan who eventually ended his fast after 71 days without food.

MARTIN MEEHAN WAS FRAMED!



Solely on the evidence of a self confessed army informer, a man with a criminal record, Martin Meehan was convicted of conspiracy to kidnap, and sentenced to 12 years. The evidence of this dubious witness was no more than a so called identification, made within a few seconds from a distance of 60 yards.

This army agent admitted in court that he had been shown photographs of Martin by his Brit Army and R.U.C. bosses, prior to the identification of him. Martin Meehan was also found guilty because he happens to be the owner of a red Cortina car with three stripes on it... the type said to be involved. Yet another driver of a car with three stripes on it stood up in court to say that his car was involved and not Meehan's, and it was he who had driven his hired car on the night in question. This defence evidence by a man with no criminal record was entirely ignored by the court! The trial was a complete farce from beginning to end - MARTIN MEEHAN WAS FRAMED.

Issued by the Martin Meehan Defence Committee.

to go
Time ^ home lads!

SEAMUS MULLAN IS INNOCENT!

Nobody really seriously expected concessions out of the British Government....but a few things have been achieved. A date has been set for the appeals and AMNESTY has promised to look into Meehan's case. Perhaps it can be argued that the courage and determination of the two men may focus some further attention onto the rotten judicial system of the 6 Cos. Premier Haughey in Dublin, approached by activists, said he would not intervene because Meehan's "...conviction was arrived at after a trial in a proper court of law".

While all this was going on, the ghetto in the Lower Ormeau Rd., in South Belfast, erupted after the murder of a 16-year old, MICHAEL Mac CARTAN, by an RUC patrol.

Michael was out painting slogans on a wall when he was shot dead. The RUC constable who shot him immediately tried to suggest that he had thought he had spotted a gunman; local people pointed out that the area had been quiet recently and they also denied that the RUC man had shouted a warning.



Issued by the SEAMUS MULLAN DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

at all and be prepared to go to death's door, show the extent of the Brit ruthlessness....of how the legal system has been tuned to get rid of political activists. The Daly and Mac Cartan murders also show the same point from the flip side....only two days before Mac Cartan was killed another 17-year old, Paul Logue, was shot and wounded by a Brit soldier after a joy-riding incident. Kill first - ask questions later are the latest tactics of the Brits and the RUC.

Secondly, this hardening attitudes feed off the general political weaknesses of the Resistance. For example, outside Belfast, there was little in the way of support activity. There was one picket in O'Connell Street in Dublin....but is this all that can be organised at this moment in the 26 Cos? Here we see the price the Resistance is paying for the right-wing turns of the H-Block campaign from last winter onwards.

Thirdly, inside Belfast, militants are still hampered by barriers of fear, mistrust and lack of communication - these are the small negatives which accumulate and weaken effective organisation. For example, it is possible for people in Ardoyne, Ligoniel, Bone, Newington, New Lodge and Unity Flats to work together....why not?

Fourthly, and as an extension of the third point, the support campaign suffered when after Meehan ended his protest, Sinn Fein more or less called off the campaign.... Mullan was still on hunger strike. For example, around 200 people who turned up for a march in New Lodge were left hanging about in uncertainty for a good while....in fairness, Sinn Fein did play an active part in the subsequent Mullan campaign but, it is our opinion, that precisely because of their prestige and their ability to influence people, they must try to be more sensitive as to how they treat people.

Finally, critical times like these show the need to dig deep roots into the people....it helps mobilisation, it helps participation

This work should be done quietly and discreetly. The immediate and burning issues are prisons and repression.

But just one final thing: this time we are winning, the events of the last few weeks show well that the Brits can't hold or really control the North. Spread hope among your friends and neighbours Organise....fight demoralisation, cynicism, liberalism. Organise. The Brits WILL BE KICKED OUT The RUC and UDR WILL BE DISBANDED Ireland WILL BE UNITED WE WILL WIN.



Ins and Outs

Looking back at the Meehan / Mullan campaign and the events in the Lr.Ormeau Rd., a number of points need stating and a number of lessons need to be learnt:

Firstly, the fact that the two men had to engage in a hunger strike

Redundancies in the 6 Cos.



The unemployment situation in the 32 Counties is worsening daily. The official figures - at the time of writing - come to nearly 190,000.....85,000 in the 6 Counties and over 103,000 in the 26 Counties. But even these wretched figures, around 13-14% of the working population,hide the real situation: the 26 Cos figures have been doctored to exclude all unemployed over 65, all those on short-time and most of the women . Equally the 6 Cos figures are an underestimate.

Our calculations put the real figure to around 220,000..... and there will be around 40,000 young people coming onto the labour market before very long . This is certainly the worst ever situation in Ireland since the late 30s .

The article below attempts to explain some of the aspects of the situation in the 6 Cos....it is our own original research put together by comrades in the North :

Firm	Where?	Type	Jobs	Lost
GRUNDIG	Dunmurry	Electronics	1,000	
GOBLIN N.I.	Belfast	House Appl.	200	
CARRERAS	C-Fergus	Tobacco	400	
H & WOLFF	Belfast	Shipbuilding	400	
PICKERINGS	Coleraine	Food	320	
OLYMPIA	Belfast	Bus. machine	280	
BALLYMONEY				
MAN CO.	Ballymoney	Cotton	260	
FORD	Belfast	Car parts	220	
T.B.A.	Dungannon	Plastic	170	
B & A	Dungannon	Print text.	150	
DAYNTIFIT	Cookstown	Clothing	150	
JOHNSON -				
ALLEN	Lurgan	Linen	180	
DEMAG	Portadown	Inj. Machine	130	
ROSEBANK	Belfast	Yarn	150	
McCLEERY -				
L'AMIE	Saintfield	Yarn	120	
ROSS POULTRY	Millisle	Eggs	120	
VF CORPO.	Dundonald	Cothing	100	
IRISH SHIP.	Warrenpoint	Shipping	100	
DEEPCO	Belfast	Shipping	100	
SCAND. HOS.	Newry	Hosiery	130	
COURTAULDS	C-Fergus	Synth.Fibre	700	
COURTAULDS	Derry	Weaving	80	
COURTAULDS	Larne	Weaving	90	
ORMO BAKE.	Belfast	Bread	100	
BAYVIEW GARM.	Derry	Shirts	90	
ARMAGH SHOE	Armagh	Footwear	120	
C.W.S.	Armagh	Fruit cann.	60	
KIRKER & CO	Armagh	Soft drinks	40	
WINDSOR	Armagh	Animal food	30	
CALLAN MILLS	Armagh	Clothing	100	
BRIDGPORT	Lisburn	Tyre valves	90	
BURGEAR	Lisburn	Electrics	50	
BURNHOUSE	Lisburn	Animal hides	50	
ROBERT DUFF	Lisburn	Furniture	20	
C.S.M.	Lisburn	Engineering	10	
MAYFAIR CO.	Portadown	Clothing	30	
METAL BOX	Portadown	Cans	30	
N.I.CARRIERS	Portadown	Haulage	10	
N.I.CARRIERS	Belfast	Haulage	50	
MAYFAIR CO.	Gilford	Clothing	70	
TILLEY	Dunmurry	Lamps etc.	60	
UN. PRESS	Belfast	Bookbinding	100	
MAGEE	Belfast	Clothing	70	
MAGEE	Ballymena	Clothing	50	
G.E.C.	Larne	El. engin.	70	
J.B.S.	Belfast	Clothing	30	
HUGH J.S.	Belfast	El. Motors	100	
AMBLER	C-Fergus	Clothing	20	
ALBION	Gr-Island	Clothing	20	
LINDSAY B.	Belfast	Clothing	30	
COAL. WEAV.	Coalisland	Clothing	30	
SPAMOUNT	Castlederg	Woolens	30	
TOOTAL	Lisnaskea	Shirts	60	
BASS SILV.	Bessbrook	Soft drinks	30	
ULSTER PEW.	Derry	Pewter	20	
LUCOZADE	Belfast	Soft drinks	70	
RICHLEA	Ballymoney	Eggs	40	
R.KEYS	Derry	Joinery	40	
G.E.A.	Bangor	Pumps	40	
BOOTH CONC.	Ballyclare	Concrete	90	

Analysis

Here is the background to these frightening figures:

The 6 Counties has a population of 1,54 million of which about 630,000 constitute ' the working population' . Some 475,000 are in employment, 85,000 are unemployed and the rest are employers or self-employed. The ' working population ' is growing at the rate of 6,000 a year, more than 100 a week.

The 6 Cos has always had high unemployment but in the past the Unionist Party was able to partly ' deal ' with the problem through a subtle form of patronage - jobs for Protestants and discrimination against Catholics. However, today, the depth of the crisis and with the old safety valve of emigration closed the situation is getting very bad indeed. The only who can emigrate now are the professionals and the highly skilled workers.

The encouragement of overseas investment to offset losses in local and traditional industries has been well highlighted and documented : but this ' solution ' to the problem of the declining traditional manufacturing base of industrial capital is not working well. It is precisely these grant-aided firms which are pulling out of the 6 Counties.

Firms enticed to the 6 Cos through large grants, like OLYMPIA , BALLYMONEY MANUFACTURING CO , like the giant GRUNDIG , which is closing down in October, and COURTAULDS which is laying off 1,300 have leeched the Irish economy - and, faced with a crisis, are now closing up shop thus accentuating the bleeding of the traditional sector.

Where will it all end workers are now asking - where indeed.



NET Cork, RAYBESTOS MANHATTAN in Cork, HYGEIA in Galway are just three examples of the developing noxious - or better TOXIC - industry in Ireland which have faced worker opposition in the last few months. The demands for safety and information have been encouraged and supported by the newly emerging NOXIOUS INDUSTRY ACTION GROUPS. Carnsore '80 will be the scene of several NOXIOUS INDUSTRY WORKSHOPS to which this article is one of our contributions. It attempts to deal specifically with dangers to men and womens reproductive systems from working in noxious chemical plants.

Genetic screening of workers is the latest response of U.S. chemical multinationals to the hundreds of expensive courtcases and factory safety measures demanded by the workers. **Genetic screening and testing** is the examination of the make-up of people....the make-up transferred at the conception of a baby from one generation to another. Screening singles out certain genetic combinations in a person which *could lead to abnormalities* in a future generation.

The interest of chemical corporations in the science of genetics is to identify the types of people, men or women, who would be vulnerable to conceiving deformed babies if exposed to certain chemicals in the workplace. Having, even roughly, identified such groups of people, the Corporations plan to exclude them from the workplace or restrict them to certain parts of labour only.

New Drugs

About 1,500 to 2,000 new chemical compounds enter the U.S. drug market every year. Adding themselves to the 600 chemicals already known to be dangerous to the unborn baby. There has been mounting worker opposition to this situation in the USA chemical plants - one of the reasons that these firms leave the USA and come to 'safer' places like the 32 Counties.

There have been attempts to drastically improve safety measures, giant court cases suing for birth defects among the babies of women workers, refusal to handle toxic substances, demands for full scientific information on products and the labour process, the employment of scientific consultants by Trade Unions, the publishing of a hazardous chemicals manual by the US Dpt. of Labour in response to demands by workers....and above all an increased awareness among men and women workers of the permanent damage to life itself at work.

Out of all this, progressive scientists have put a huge amount of energy into a new branch of genetic science called **TERATOGENICS**.

A **TERATOGEN** is a chemical or other agent that interferes with the development of the foetus after conception. The resulting abnormal effects may cause miscarriage or, if the foetus survives, may cause the development of defects visible either at birth or after. 'Teras' is a Greek word meaning monster and 'genos' means race....the implication is evident.

GENETICS studies the molecular constitution of chromosomes by which inherited characteristics are transmitted. Chromosomes are configurations of genes, microscopic structures within each cell of the human body that transmit all inherited characteristics from one generation to the next.

New Science

Teratogenics is the scientific study of factors leading to birth abnormalities in the foetus in the first few weeks of its existence in the womb. Scientists involved in teratogenics are identifying the path to damage caused by toxic chemicals. These first attack the body of the mother, then the placenta linking the mother to the foetus, then the tiny liver of the foetus. The most significant result of these new studies shows that the majority of birth defects are caused by damage to the foetus *in the first four weeks of its existence*

The first four weeks are the most rapid and therefore most critical period of the foetus' development. The period of rapid change means that the foetus is in a period of transition and is highly vulnerable to external interference. However, the first four weeks of the foetus' existence are those weeks when the mother *doesn't know* she is pregnant - she's still unsure if she has missed a period, there are few external signs of pregnancy, her body is the same shape, if using contraceptives she assumes it is still working....even pregnancy tests during the first four weeks often show negative results. A miscarriage during this time may appear as an unusually heavy period which the mother does not interpret to herself, or least of all to her workmates, as a miscarriage related to her place of work.

The discovery of the danger to the foetus in the first four weeks has caused havoc in certain circles in the US. If the greatest danger is possible in the first weeks, when even the mother is unaware she is pregnant, then safety measures for pregnant mothers, transfers to other less toxic parts of the factory all go to the wall. As a result, women are being removed out of the toxic workplaces by bigger Corporations, fearing Court cases for birth damage. Women are now being replaced by men at a fast rate.

WORK



The Company involved in the biggest controversy over these practices is the **CYNAMID CORPORATION** which required its women workers to be sterilised before engaging in certain types of chemical work. Some women agreed. The **Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union** has highlighted this case as a violation of human rights, of reproductive rights. Naturally, men workers are reluctant to take on work unfit for pregnant women. Fertility among men may be reduced by exposure to certain chemicals in the workplace, which make the mens sperm count so low that they are effectively sterile. This second round of opposition from men has led the Corporations to concentrate their recruitment on the 50-65 year old age

KILLS



group whose whose child producing years , in the opinion of the firms, are over.

The two Unions to the forefront of this struggle for the defence of the reproductive rights of women and men are the **Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union** and the **United Steelworkers of America**. In February this year, the two Unions organised together a national Conference on **THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS OF WOMEN**. It was attended by Trade Unionists, scientists, lawyers as well as observers from the big Corporations and the U.S. Army who have giant contracts with these chemical firms for the manufacture of products for chemical warfare. Women scientists and lawyers clashed

with a woman speaker from the U.S. Department of Labour who argued that equal rights for women in the workplaces meant, of course, equal acceptance of the dangers of toxic substances.

New Headaches

All of this is causing the US toxic Corporations a lot of head-aches. Scientists interfering in the development of capital is one thing, women workers getting militant is another, but **FEMINIST SCIENTISTS** is a combination they haven't yet learnt to handle. Which brings us to the involvement of these toxic Corporations in **Genetic screening**. The Companies are seeking human groups who are either less likely to be vulnerable to birth defects, or, more sinister, groups among whom birth defects are less noticeable.

The latter would ideally include nations or nationalities where the measurement of birth defects is poor or the incidence is so high that it won't be blamed on the Corporations. A New York Times Report recently identified Ireland as one of 3 countries in the world where the effects of toxic chemicals are **LESS** likely to show up. One factor in their argument is the very high incidence of **DOWN'S SYNDROME** (Mongolism) in Ireland - a genetic abnormality. Secondly, the measurement of birth defects is wretchedly poor in Ireland. Birth damaged children are not uncommonly abandoned at birth, miscarriage and stillbirths are not measured. In fact, stillbirths in Ireland are among the highest in Western Europe; stillborn babies births are not registered, nor are autopsies carried out - there is rarely a baptism.

Old Crap

The Medico-Social Research Board in Dublin has persistently deplored these practices, which apart from being medically outrageous, are illegal. A further helpful factor for the Toxic Corporations in Ireland is the opposition to genetic testing in general.....this derives from a fear that if mothers were aware of the possibility of giving birth to a genetically damaged baby, they might seek to use contraception or seek abortion.

In the 26 Counties, the battle for free, legal and safe contraception is still on and will not be met by the new 'Family Planning Act' or the new regulations to come into effect in the Autumn. The arrival of noxious industry throws up the need for an added dimension to this struggle - **A STRUGGLE FOR THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS** of women and men in the workplace. The pouring into the 26 Counties, particularly into the Cork area, of noxious capital is a symptom of the crisis facing noxious capital in the USA - a crisis which has hit inside the heart of the production process from among the workers of US Chemical Corporations. Attempting to export this crisis to countries like Ireland has divided the industry in the US. The US State Department is

worried that developments in the toxic chemical industry could lead to a situation of "....explosive anti-US outcries in Third World countries...."

and Autonomy again

The struggle against toxic industry takes many forms : against the environmental pollution, against the dumping of waste, the transportation of the chemical shipments and the production of the product. At the point of production the struggle stands or falls inside the workplace.

ORGANISATION inside the workplace, against low wages and the work process is one part of the struggle. But the **STRUGGLE AGAINST the CONTENT OF THE LABOUR PROCESS** is likely to assume a much higher significance in the near future.

An essential beginning for this organisational work is the establishment of autonomous workplace **SAFETY COMMITTEES**.....capable of distributing scientific information across Union, sex, shift, age and skill/trade lines.

In chemical production, effective pregnancy testing paid by Management is also essential for the protection of women workers. In certain plants (for example in those involved in the manufacturing of **STEROIDS**) sperm count testing may be also essential for men. We are urging all workers to seek the longest possible **PAID** pregnancy leave.... so that the Companies do not simply expel the pregnant women workers but take responsibility for the possible birth damage of babies.

The **MINIMUM** requirements of a factory safety committee would include:

- Free and constant medical supervision by non-management doctors and nurses.
- Strict enforcement of ventilation rules.
- Controlled exposure of workers, through the ending of overtime and the implementing of breaks outside the shop-floor.
- Canteen facilities separate from the production plant.
- Showering and wash-up during working hours.
- The right of workers to bring independent assessors into the workplace
- The installation of safety monitors in and around the plant.
- Organised procedures for the total closure of the plant in the event of an accident or leakage.

**OPPOSE TOXIC INDUSTRY !!!
FIGHT TOXIC AND NOXIOUS CAPITAL!
FOR THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
OF WOMEN AND MEN !!!**



Uranium exploration has been going on in Ireland since 1976 - a fact most people are unaware of. Although opposition in Donegal has been developing for at least 3 years now, it was not until Carnsore '79 and the subsequent efforts of many people inside and outside the anti-nuclear movement that the anti-uranium struggle took on a national importance. The Donegal Uranium Committee, the Thomastown Mining Investigation Group are essential local initiatives which have strengthened local opposition and provided a focus of support. The article below is our contribution to the developing struggle against uranium in the 32 Counties.

URANUCLEAR ONE STRUGGLE

The recent statements by the Irish State on the question of uranium mining and their rigid and uncompromising attitude, well highlighted in the attempts to completely submerge anti-uranium opposition in the organisation of the so-called 'URANIUM SYMPOSIUM' on April 18th/19th, must give us food for thought.

Irrespective of what some fragile theories may argue, notwithstanding the serious defeats of the Free State on the Carnsore issue, we are not about to witness a decision on the Uranium issue....if indeed a decision has been taken, it must turn around the continuation and intensification of exploration all across the country.

The pro-nuclear/pro-uranium forces in Ireland, after their severe hiding of the last two years, have been re-organising and strengthening their links. They now know that it won't be easy. But they are far from being beaten.... To better understand the nature and links of these forces, and their plans for Ireland, let us examine briefly the uranium situation internationally.

OVERPRODUCTION

In the U.S.A. and Canada, there is an overproduction of uranium at present, with a resultant decrease in price. In late '79, the price of uranium had hit a three-year low of \$41 per lb. This overproduction was due to 2 main factors: popular struggles against the nuclear industry, which had forced the closure of many reactors across the States and the world and the scrapping of future development plans; secondly, for strategic reasons, the cutback by the U.S. on its export of nuclear material because of the threat of nuclear proliferation, and particularly the part that France and Germany have to play in this.

KERR-MCGEE, the biggest uranium producer in the States, decided last January not to go ahead with mining in an area it had been exploring for the last 5 years. And GULF OIL is not able to get any buyers for its new Mount Taylor mine in New Mexico. These problems, coupled with the

recent moratorium on uranium mining in British Columbia, and the exposure of a price-fixing cartel in the U.S.A., have resulted in a major crisis for uranium mining companies in the U.S.A. and Canada - a crisis which can only be overcome by exporting their technology and mining elsewhere in the world. So far U.S. multinationals own 80 % of all uranium mines outside the USSR.

And so we find these companies coming into Ireland, encouraged by the EEC, the Irish State and the legal structures which give the State the ownership of minerals. This year the EEC has increased its budget for uranium mining four-fold and a large share of this budget (about £1 million last year) goes to Ireland. These large exploration grants (MAUGH, a subsidiary of the French MINATONE Company involved in exploration in Leinster, has received £1 million in grants since 1976) mean that exploration is not an economic risk for the companies involved. On the contrary, looking at the relatively low wages offered and the small amount of equipment and other capital used, and also the rate of interest on investment, the exploration stage is quite probably one of productive investment, of profit.

E.E.C. HOLD

The urgency with which Europe is seeking uranium sources within its own territories can be explained in both economic, political and military terms. At the moment Europe produces 4 % of the world's uranium, yet uses 42 % of world supplies of it. Most imported uranium comes from RIO TINTO ZINC's mine in Namibia. Continued exports from that source depend to a large extent on R.T.Z.'s continued access to these uranium fields, and are bound up with continued support for apartheid. This, as well as being an unreliable source of uranium, constitutes a major political embarrassment for Europe, and particularly for Britain.

Other European supplies come from Canada and Australia, both uncertain because of the degree of popular struggle against uranium mining. And so the push for uranium

exploration within Europe is getting stronger - in France, Scotland, Ireland and Germany.

Since 1974 the dominant European States of France and Germany were anxious to overcome the U.S. As dominant position in export orders - thus the violations of international non-proliferation safeguards, the secret deals between France and Pakistan, the training of South Africa in nuclear weaponry by Nazi scientists, and the development of enrichment and reprocessing plants within France and Germany through URENCO and EURODIF.

Europe - especially France and Germany - is intent on selling, on expanding its technology abroad, and seems willing to do anything to achieve this, including the selling of nuclear material for armament purposes. France and Germany are also intent on nuclear development for their own military plans, and the development of an independent European power.

But there are weak links in the forging of this nuclear chain - especially where uranium supplies and waste disposal are concerned. And this is where Ireland takes on a great strategic importance for Europe's nuclear plans. Ireland offers the dominant EEC countries a uranium supply option and a waste disposal option without military complications. Plutonium from Carnsore would be under the control of NATO, even without Irish membership, and the Euratom Treaty ensures that any nuclear development by the Irish State would come directly under European control.

CONTROL

The EURATOM TREATY, first drawn up in 1957, "to create conditions necessary for the development of a powerful nuclear industry" lays the distinctive basis of a move towards tight military, political and economic control of the 32 Counties by the EEC - and particularly Germany and France.... a cog in the emerging competitor role of Europe against the dominant US interests.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

The EURATOM TREATY ensures the free movement of capital - and primarily nuclear capital - between member States. It provides for the establishment of a joint nuclear RESEARCH CENTRE and also gives the right to sole ownership by the EEC of all nuclear material and know-how produced by or imported by a member State.

Under this Treaty, an Independent ATOMIC AGENCY has been established. It has control of its capital and freedom of operation within the territories of all member States. This Agency has the right of option on all ores, source materials and special fissile materials, produced in the territory of the member States. It also has the exclusive right to conclude contracts for these materials coming from inside or outside the Community. Also under the Treaty, the ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION agrees to give financial support to prospecting programmes in Europe...but it retains exclusive control over the exploitation and sale of uranium within Europe as well as all exports and imports.

COMPULSIVE TREATY

Finally, under the Treaty, "...if...prospecting activities and the expansion of...operations continue to be markedly inadequate, the...State concerned shall, for as long as it has failed to remedy the situation, be deemed to have waived, both for itself and its nationals, the right of equal access to other sources of supply within the Community....."

(Section 5 ; Article 70)

It appears clearly from the above, that uranium in Ireland, if commercially viable, will not only be a politically reliable source, guaranteed by the EURATOM Treaty, but also that the Irish State can be forced into digging up more and more of the deadly stuff by the threat of the halting of supplies for the future Carnsore nuclear power plant.

It is our basic argument that the determination of the 2 States in the 6 and 26 Cos to go ahead with uranium exploration, despite all opposition, is tied in with, on the one hand their dependence on the EEC for support of existing nuclear plants (in the case of the Brits) and on the other their overall politico/economic dependence on the dominant interests of the EEC. This also shows the hollowness of all the nonsense of the supposed needs of the economy, or, indeed, all the argument about independence from the oil blackmail.

Thus, we see the struggle against uranium exploration today, much more than a local struggle of a few obstinate people....much more even than a struggle for the health and livelihood of the people of Donegal, Carlow, Kilkenny or West Cork. It is obviously much more than a fight to preserve Ireland's scenery.

It is a struggle of a national and international significance against the power hungry dreams of the European bourgeois classes and for the building of a Europe controlled by and in the interests of the working people...a clean, healthy, united Europe where working people control their destiny.

FOR UNITY

It is obviously a struggle intricately bound up to the national opposition to the nuclear plant and the emerging opposition to noxious industry and environmental destruction.

Under this light, we will intensify our attempts to UNIFY the anti-nuclear/anti-uranium/ anti-noxious opposition in the form of a NATIONAL MASS MOVEMENT, based on LOCAL AUTONOMY, with REGULAR MASS ASSEMBLIES as the decision making structure of the movement... A MASS MOVEMENT OF OPPOSITION capable of fighting and winning.

We believe this objective is shared by thousands of people across the 32 Counties....which gives us confidence, strength and boundless optimism for the months and years ahead.

FOR UNITY IN STRUGGLE

NO NUCLEAR
NO URANIUM
NO TOXIC INDUSTRY

You can also read:

OPPOSE TOXIC WASTE DUMPS
a publication of the Cork Noxious Industry Action Group
10 p. June 1980

and

THE CORPORATE CRIME OF THE CENTURY - a reprint of the US magazine 'Mother Jones' Nov. '79 20p.

both available through Rebel.

Donegal Conference

Anti Nuclear/Uranium activists from all over the country came to Lettermacaward in Donegal at the end of June for a weekend of activity. On the Friday night there was a benefit concert featuring Christy Moore, Mick Hanlay, Donal Lunney and others, which was highly successful.

On the Saturday there was an exchange of views and discussion on tactics and strategy of the movement against uranium. This was a start in nationalising the struggle against the uranium grabbers, in building a more effective campaign to stop them in their tracks. In this meeting there were some high-handed and unnecessary remarks coming from the chairman of the Donegal Uranium Committee, but I think that the exchange proved valuable and certainly opened the eyes of other Donegal activists to the need for broadening their campaign, and of the invaluable help to be found inside the anti nuclear movement in doing so. The D.U.C. were invited to participate in Carnsore and we hope to see them there.

Billy Kavana gh

Stop the Ammonia Rail Bomb!

The recent train crash in Buttevant Co. Cork is a tragic reminder of the potential disaster of the ammonia rail-bomb. The State experts insist that the 'probability' of such a disaster is 'almost zero', like Buttevant or Whiddy Island. The ammonia train follows the same route as the one which crashed last week passing through the most populated parts of the country - Cork, Kildare Tipperary, Dublin and Dun Laoghaire - on its way to the NET Nitrate plant in Arklow. NET, who are well known for putting profit before safety, ignored the warnings of the Cork chief fire officer who recommended that if toxic ammonia waste be transported at all it should be by sea. Instead, C.I.E., who offered NET the cheapest deal, gives a few pounds danger money to the train drivers and puts an empty carriage at each end as a buffer. In the event of an accident drivers were

instructed to walk two miles upwind and call for help !!!

In the past three years there have been three accidents on that line already, and if any had involved the NET ammonia train, thousands of people would have been endangered and huge zones evacuated. And only a few weeks ago an ASAHI train carrying the deadly Acrylonitrile had spillages around the Summerhill area of Dublin. The NET train should be stopped before it falls over Butt Bridge...

Leaflets on the NET Train are available from the Cork Noxious Industry Action Group at the following address:

William Thompson,
c/o 5 Bridge Street,
Cork.

'the day the bomb fell'

Accidents Will Happen seems to be the theme of a new book by Clyde W. Burlson, called "The Day the Bomb Fell". It describes in minute detail some of the infamous accidents in the history of the nuclear industry: Windscale '57, Browns Ferry, Gur'yev (Urals) and Three Mile Island

Island. The book is basically pro-nuclear, concerned more with dollars than the environment or health, but some of the information is useful.

Yellowcake

One accident, described in detail, took place on Highway 287 in the U.S. in Sept. 1977. It concerned a EXXON (recognise the name) truck, transporting 40,000 pounds of radioactive "yellowcake" from mills near a Uranium mine to a reprocessing plant for conversion into uranium pellets - fuel for a nuclear reactor.

The truck collided with a herd of wild horses, and crashed, out of control, spewing its contents over roadway and verge. Passers-by, attempting to rescue the occupants, had to wade through radioactive yellow powder. It was 36 hours before EXXON - disputing liability with the local health authorities - finally agreed to clean-up and decontaminate the area. Meanwhile counts of radiation were recorded at 53 times higher than 'normal' background radiation. EXXON were opposed locally in their efforts to hire local cheap day labour rather than trained health environment workers. No one was issued with respirators, and only shovels were used to scoop up the powder, despite a strong wind. They never succeeded in recovering all the powder, some was sucked up by passing cars, more was inhaled by workers and onlookers and more again dispersed by the wind.

Seven days passed before the public was informed of the accident - mainly because of the persistence of a reporter from Boulder, Colorado newspaper. Health officials merely told people to wash their cloths and shower to get rid of contamination - ignoring the fact that yellowcake is particularly dangerous when inhaled.

And Ammonia

Another important accident is mentioned in passing, without much detail. This time in Houston, Texas, at a massive road intersection, where an eighteen-wheeler truck, carrying liquid ammonia, plunged to destruction over a fly-over. The driver was killed instantly and many injured in the wreckage. That was only the beginning. Cars and people crowded up and soon the ammonia began to leak and turn to vapour. Occupants of cars inhaled the deadly vapour, and staggered out - many collapsed, some died. No final death toll is given.

Kindred Spirits

Both these accidents resulted from situations where profit determined safety. In this country, C.I.E. trains carry liquid ammonia through built up areas rather than by sea, from the N.E.T. plants in Cork and Arklow, for economic reasons. Given the frequency of train accidents, this train should be stopped now. Uranium mining in this country is also open to such accidents, as the yellowcake of a mine would have to be transported across land and sea. Many accidents happen - many can be prevented. STOP URANIUM EXPLORATION. STOP THE AMMONIUM TRAIN !!!

J.B.



New Publications

We print below a few short notes on new publications we have read recently.

Nonviolence Against Nuclear Power

This is the name of a new magazine By Cork Friends of the Earth and DAWN paper, arguing for a nonviolent political philosophy to be adopted by the anti-nuclear Movement. Many stories from different countries and a few Irish examples, such as the EEC occupation and building the Cairn. It has a useful anti-nuke bibliography.

DAWN: 168 Rathgar Rd, Dub. 6
CFOE: Ballyleigh, Waterfall, Cork.
Cost is 30p for 22 pages.

Resistance No. 2

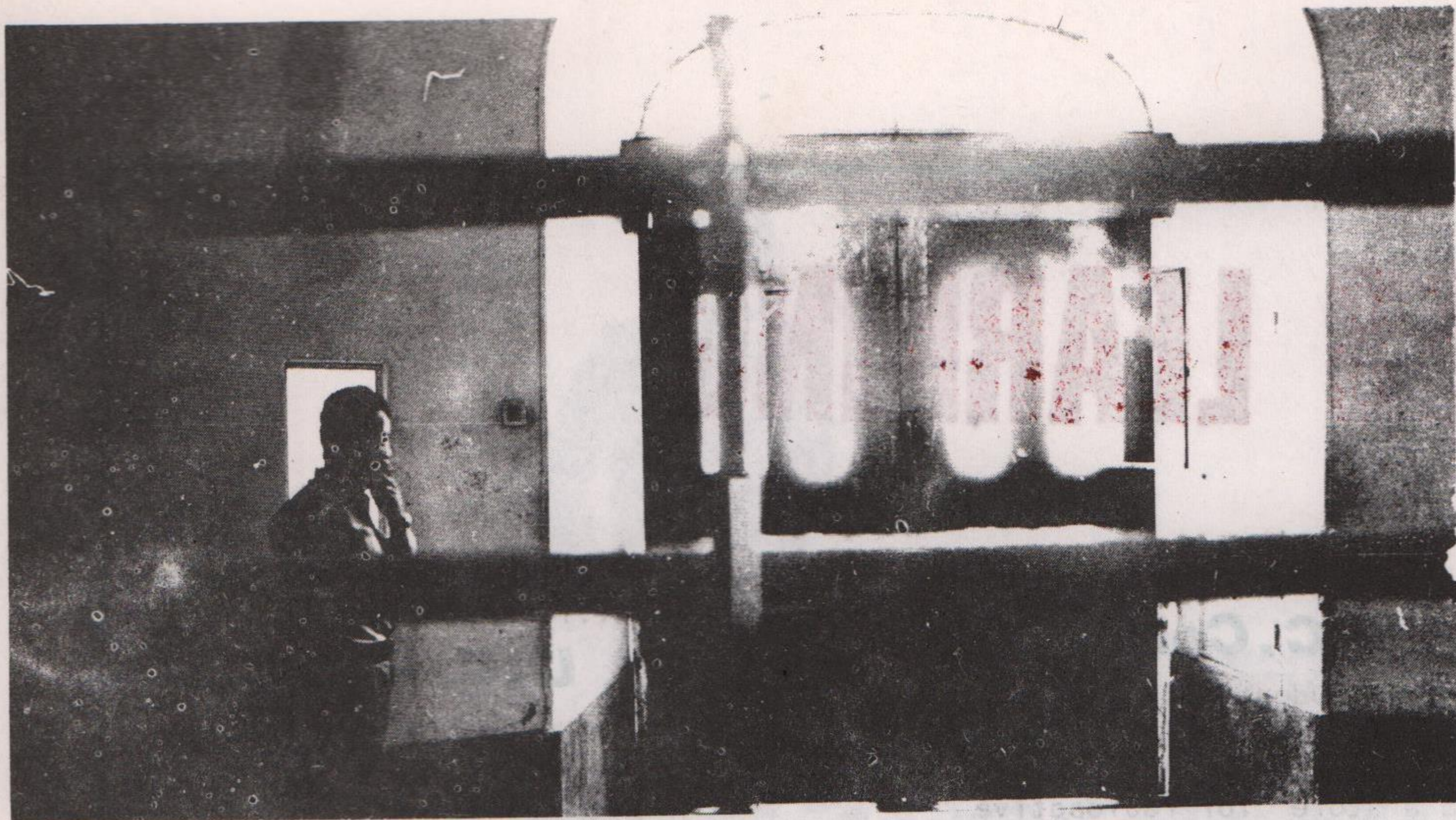
No. 2 of this anarchist paper is out with some history and prison articles but not much news. Anarchism is 'mutual aid and voluntary organisation' they tell - maybe no. 3 will talk about how to get there!

Resistance Collective: c/o ABC Books
7 Marlborough St. D.2. 15p. 20 pages.

Left Perspectives Vol 1 No.1

A new attempt at a left analytical magazine. These are right-wing social democrats who find the SLP extreme. Defenders of democracy at home and abroad. It's less about classes and more about inequality... less about struggle and more about changing 'social attitudes and institutions'.

Left Per: 36 Marlborough Rd. D.4.
Cost is 80p for 36 pages.



On June 29th, a massive ' Carnsore style ' festival was held on a Government owned site near Clondalkin in Co. Dublin.

The site is that proposed for the building of a Prison's Complex, containing a Womens Prison (for 60 women !) and a Juvenile Detention Centre for 120 young people. The 45 acre site, which cuts across the main roadway, is to be surrounded by a 25ft high security wall.

The local people say that the site is of major importance to them - it is badly needed to SERVE THE COMMUNITY....not just Clondalkin, but also Ballyfermot which today has less than half of the 'legally required' amount of open space. The Corporation, obviously, can break its own laws. Palmerstown also need a site for a new school.

The ' FAMILY FESTIVAL TO STOP THE PRISONS ' was a day-long event with up to 10,000 people visiting the site. With an excellent organisation based on local people, and no need for ' experts ', the event was a very much a working class occasion....people from all the surrounding communities came....some from quite a distance with prams and kids. As it was to be expected, in events of this type, the 'traditional' Left was shining through its total absence.

Bands played from 2 to 8pm - so many agreed to play that there was not enough time. The music was varied: punk, trad and rock and roll interspersed with announcements and speeches. The travelling people, who have a site right next to the proposed site, played a major part in making the day a huge success -- their ' settlement ' of tigrins will be knocked down if the prison is built. In one field there was horse races going on....in another the Festival OLYMPICS for the family - (there were no boycotts). Fortune telling, a video, information stalls, displays....colourful, political, friendly. The Branch had been kept out by the organizers ... bulletins and Rebel was being sold. Donations collected.

To those of us there the Festival was a great massive success.; Given the determination expressed by the people, it is obvious that the Department of Justice will have to think long and hard before going ahead with this Prison.

After the event, we talked with a few of the organisers. Below we reprint excerpts of the discussion:

Rebel: What is the aim of the campaign ?

M : To stop the prison being built !!

R : Were you pleased with the Festival ?

T : Absolutely, it was a great success in many ways ; we've managed to show both the massive opposition to the plan and also what can be done with the site....on the site. The Festival was free and we covered all our costs. Definitely, the most successful thing we have done so far.

R : How is the campaign run and who is involved ?

S : The Campaign is a community wide campaign - a MASS campaign. Support comes from all over the place in many different forms. Organisation is in the form of local autonomous groups. The first group to form was Clondalkin... at a 'Community Council' meeting. The group is open, anyone can attend. Clondalkin meetings now also play the role of ' general ' meetings...co-ordination meetings for people from other group who attend. Palmerstown also has a local group which meets regularly. In Ballyfermot, a group was recently formed and has been very active.

R : Some people are saying that the local residents are only concerned with the value of their houses and property going down because of the prison....is this true ?

S : If it was true why did those same residents agree to a travellers settlement on the site ? In fact, there are many who want the prison moved somewhere else -that's their only concern. BUT, the GENERAL concern is the wish to see peoples needs provided for....centres for young people. Not prisons. I think the ' property ' bit is just a slur....it was, after all the first reaction of the Government publicity machine.

D : There has been quite a lot of discussion about prisons

in general and many are against them - period. Some of us have proposed to hold an open discussion conference in order to bring this aspect into focus. It will be called WHY PRISONS and will be organised by the combined anti-prison groups. This has been generally accepted. It shows that the groups are very much concerned with the wider issues....

R : What has been the response of the State to all this ?

T : Some County Councils and Corporations are with us.... but the main say is with the Department of Justice - they don't even need planning permission. According to Collins, and recently Haughey's Secretary, they are going ahead. They were to start building a couple of months ago but....

They're buying time. They cannot really go ahead because of the opposition. As their plans of the economy have not worked out they will need the prison more and more. Tenders have gone out. JOHN PAUL and some others are involved.

A : At the most recent meeting with the Minister, he told us that we were getting too emotional about it, 'making a mountain out of a molehill ', that's what he said. He also said that if people wanted facilities in the area they should consult their local TDs - he was only responsible for his own Department. When he was told that Lenihan the Minister for Foreign Affairs had physically threatened one of us, he called Lenihan in. He told him accusations were being made against him....Lenihan freaked out, told one of the delegates "I will get you I will" and stormed out.

R : Tell us a bit about the tactics of the campaign.

B : First there was a march in Clondalkin to highlight the issue. Then a march to the site with smaller marches from the 3 communities converging on the site. We held a public meeting in Ballyfermot with a video show. We have produced thousands of leaflets and posters. Constant letters to the Minister. We organised a car cavalcade to the Dail with 70 cars all hooting through Dublin.

Recently we produced a STOP The PRISONS broadsheet/bulletin and sold it around the areas. Then the Festival.... we have plans for more festivals and the Conference we mentioned. Finally more elaborate preparations for the time they try and move in.

R : Are you optimistic about the outcome ?

T : YES...as long as the Campaign continues. If they do try to build it we'll tear down the prison...brick by brick.

NUKES LEARNING

Previous issues of REBEL (no. 22 & 24) examined the relationship between the nuclear industry and Irish Universities... the training of nuclear personnel on 'student training reactors', research into energy technology for the U.S. Army and U.S. Airforce, other more 'civil' and more 'peaceful' nuclear research and so on. Underneath the projected image of *detached objectivity*, of the *scientific neutrality* of these *ivory towers of learning* underneath this shabby and poorly disguised appearance, Universities in Ireland play a concrete and integral role for State and capital.

Besides spawning the intellectual politicians (like Martin O'Donoghue or Mary Robinson) for Fianna Fail and the other parties in the Dail/Senate, and besides training and educating the future bosses of Ireland, the Universities research, plan and organise pathways for present and future capitalist development and exploitation.

For example, in 1978 these universities provided half of the documents used by different state and industrial agencies in the 26 Cos. The NIHE in Limerick runs a consultancy agency for the industrial interests in Shannon - and WESTINGHOUSE (the front-runner in the Carnsore project) finances its professorship in computer engineering.

A clear picture is beginning to emerge of the extent to which the Universities are integrated into the nuclear cycle. The following examples trace the involvement of Irish Universities in the provision and promotion of nuclear research, training, technical know-how and ideology - key elements in the pro-nuclear camp:

U.C. Cork

- a 2½ ton student training reactor and 2½ tons of uranium...
- plans (now temporarily shelved) to build a store for radioactive material and an incinerator; the advice of the NEB has been sought on this...
- Prof. Frank Fahy (Head of the Physics Dept.) has a PhD. from Chicago University, is closely linked with the U.S.A.s military & civil nuclear programmes, and is directly active in trying to push Ireland into the nuclear chain...
- Prof. Quinlan (Mathematical Physics Dept.) worked for 8 years with the U.S. Dept. of Defence and recently got a grant of \$2,000 from the U.S. Air Force...
- Prof. Sexton and Gerry Wrixon from the Engineering Dept. have between them received \$60,000 from the US Airforce, the US Army and the UK Atomic Energy Authority on nuclear and solar power...
- Of the 6 students who were trained on the Reactor during 1978-79, 3 are now employed by WESTINGHOUSE, who recruits directly from the University and uses college facilities to carry out its interviews.

N.I.H.E.

- Ed Walsh (Director at NIHE) used to work with the U.S. nuclear industry; WESTINGHOUSE also recruits its personnel from here.

U.C. Galway

- O'Cinneide (Prof. of Inorganic Chemistry) is a member of the NEB (Nuclear Energy Board), and worked in Windscale (U.K.) for 14 years, and in Hanford (U.S.A.) - two key nuclear centres. He has consistently done all he can to

publicly discredit the anti-nuke movement...

U.C.D.

- another student training reactor...
- Prof. McGuinness (Physics) and Prof. Philbin are two more NEB members...

Trinity

- plans a student training reactor similar to the one in Cork...
- its attempts to build an incinerator for radioactive waste in Santry Dublin are being strongly resisted by the local residents...
- Prof. Ian McAuley (Dept. of Experimental Physics) saturates the bourgeois media with his pro-nuke bullshit from dawn to dusk...

N.U. Ulster

- Prof. Newbould, respected environmentalist and NEB member...

N.I.H.E. Dublin

- Dr. Alex Rollo Spowart (new Head of Physical Science Dept.) worked for 5 years with the UK Atomic Energy Authority at Dounray, and at the same time worked at Los Alamos Laboratory New Mexico, CERN in Grenoble and the Argonne National Library Chicago - all important nuclear centres...



REBEL will continue to publish important counterinformation on the nuclear industry and pro-nuclear forces in Ireland. The universities will be examined in their role as organisers of the ideology and reality of a nuclear future, of nuclear domination, as training people to kill...

UCC REACTOR OUT !
UCD REACTOR OUT !
NO INCINERATOR IN SANTRY !

Carnsore Times



Wed/Thurs : International Meeting. Visitors from America, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, England, Scotland, Holland and Euskadi.



Thurs/Fri : Workshops on nuclear power, uranium mining, Windscale, Noxious industry and alternatives.



Sun : International & National Strategy.

Sat. Morn



: Meeting on noxious industry with Raybestos, Hygeia, and NET workers and residents of Ringaskiddy, and Aghfarrell and Joe Bangerton from U.S.

Sat. Aft



: Uranium meeting with Donegal Committee, anti-uranium fighters from many countries and from Ireland.

MUSIC

Christy Moore and Donal Lunny, Freddie White, Jimmy Crowley, Declan Synnot & Jimmy McCarthy, Mary Black, Davy Spillane, Gerry Moore, Don Baker & many more.

Also... Theatre 'Potatoes' by Tony Clafferky. Plays by Grapevine, TEAM and Waterford Dramatic Society.

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