



Contents

H-Block.....p. 2
Provocation.....p. 3
Pearl in the Oyster...p. 4
Uranium saga.....p. 5
Anti-Toxic.....pp.6/7
Classified.....p. 8
May Day.....p. 9
Debate on USSR.....ppIO/II
Gay Conference.....p II

"To me this represents and signifies the further torture of the tortured, blocking out the very essence of life: nature!.....And I also realised that, here, my torturers have long ago started, and still endeavour, to block up the window of my mind."

10p

No. 41 May 5

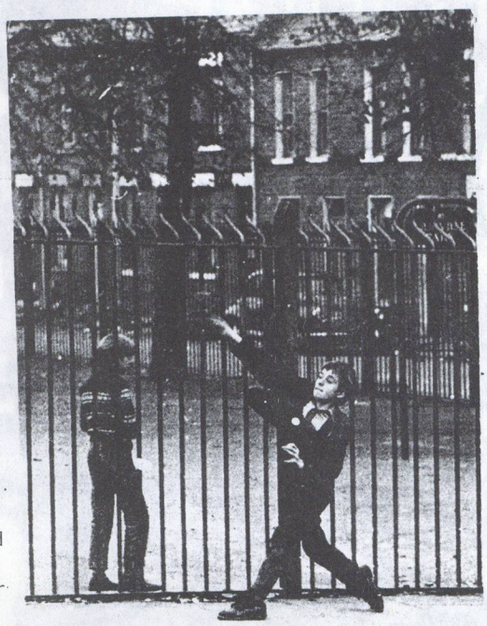
2017.21.3.296

Wednesday 2p.m. April 29

The article below is the personal viewpoint of one comrade of RS. It comes in the midst of frantic police activity both in the 6 and 26 Cos against militants of the anti-imperialist movement, including members and supporters of RS. This situation has disorganised a number of planned discussions and activity both of ourselves and the movement in general . In this critical context, as Bobby Sands is fighting for his life, as the movement is trying to retain its organisational capacity, the letter below has to be understood and appreciated for what it is and what it is not. Circumstances permitting it may be supplemented by a further more collective article dealing with events as they unfold.

SMASH H BLOCK

With the imminence of death hanging over the H-Block issue, there has been a considerable increase of activity around the Dublin area. There have been marches of 300-400 in the Liberties, pickets on O'Connell Bridge, a march of around a 1,000 through the City Centre, occupations and bomb scares on British Airways, an attempted take-over of the British Embassy, pirate radio broadcasts as well as a march out to Charlie Haughey's house to coincide with the visit of Marcella Sands.



Most of these activities have been diffuse and while such actions usually receive the blessing of the H-Block Committee organisation is decentralised and perspectives and attitudes very ambiguous. The movement is suffering from the lack of leadership which has been evident for months but has come to a head as the situation unfolded.

The suicidal intransigence of the British has destroyed one myth after another. It has shown the strategy of relying on Charlie and Fianna Fail to be what it is: *a political misjudgement disarming the movement*. It has shown all the conciliatory efforts of the Europeans, the Yanks , and now the Pope to be of little use in the face of the large wound gaping in front of our very eyes. The British and the Unionists know that this is the B I G one. Victory of the movement on this issue will mean disintegration of the British occupation of the 6 Cos. And this they will NOT concede. The only way is to snatch it out of them.

Bobby Sands MP is going to die and marching up and down around the Kildare and Dawson Street areas will not save him... we don't have and do not want the *sympathy* of a Government that sends 3 or 4 black marias and a dozen Task Force lads to a march of 300 people from the Liberties. Is it because we are, potentially more damaging than 5,000 parading peacefully in O'Connell Street ?

We don't want to appeal to the British and the Free State. Their interests don't coincide with those of the hunger strikers or the men in Portlaoise, those under military guard in the Curragh or those in Mountjoy . It is MY attitude that WE HAVE TO ATTACK THESE REGIMES....in particular, in relation to this hunger strike we have to attack British interests.

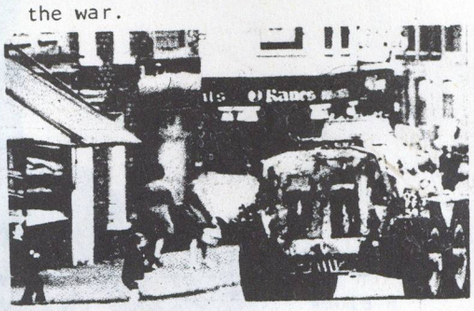
Osgur Breathnach stated at the last H-Block Conference in Dublin that we have to make the 6 and 26 Counties *ungovernable* . I'm in full agreement with him .

The INLA today stated that Brit tourists will not be tolerated in the border areas. Why then does the STARRY PLOUGH condemn the Trinity shooting along with the toppling of a monument to British colonialism as adventurist and as, obviously, not the work of anti-imperialists ?

Why are the Provisionals & the IRSPs ordering the young people rioting to 'take it easy'? Why are the Special Branchmen who arrest our comrades threatening them that the Provisionals are ready to shoot RS comrades ? Why is a leading Provisional from Finglas whose name and address is dear to our hearts keeps repeating that he would like to pump a few bullets into those RS chicks ?

I don't want alliances or compromises with a State that relies increasingly on repression and blackmail to keep order.Owen Carron comes down to appeal to Haughey, who has overseen a systematic search and destroy operation against the Provisionals; who will probably oversee the hanging of at least one militant after the election ; who, so far, has used the H-Block issue for his own political ends. Though now Charlie himself is in a fix.... despite his unique relationship with Maggie.

For me victory to the prisoners passes through the extension and nationalisation of the war.





Cracked Heads

On Saturday May 2, 2-3,000 people marched in Dublin in support of the hunger strikers and their five demands. Towards the end of the march, scuffles broke in front of the BHS Stores in O'Connell St. A few rocks flew and a number of comrades as well as a good number of cops were injured. Rebels saw young women and men with blood streaming down their face. The incident occurred when marchers attempted to put a ladder on the BHS to help a number of demonstrators who had been trapped inside after an occupation of the British owned stores.

after by the physical liquidation of its members...Trotsky was the only major leader of the old guard to escape murder. The bourgeois counter-revolution had gained momentum and become the dominant force within the Party and the State.

***

Under the counter-revolution the fragile underdeveloped class alliance between the peasants & the industrial proletariat suffered a final defeat. By 1930 a huge and rapid development of heavy industry , under the control of the State bourgeoisie, was under way , soon to be followed by the re-introduction of wage differentials, increasing control of factory managers (most of them Party members) over workers, anti-worker/anti-women/anti-gay legislation and generally a gradual bringing back of the boss v worker relationship, re-enforcing the system of commodity production worker exploitation.

Private Capital

Private capital grew rapidly and by 1923 it employed 20,000 workers in Moscow while in Ukraine the figure stood at 620,000 . In 1927 while the total of the industrial proletariat stood at 2,766,136 the Administration employed 2,076,977. In the countryside, 3-4% of large farmers controlled over 50% of all arable land and 75% of the 7 mil. rented hectares with the poor peasants as tenants. During the same year there were 3.5 mil. permanent and 1.6 mil part-time agricultural labourers whose wages were approximately 40% LOWER than those paid by landlords before World War I.

Socialism for whom may we well ask .

***

From this point on, the tendency was towards **the increasing institutionalisation of the State bourgeoisiebased** firmly on a system of exploitative relations of production .However it is important to point out a major difference between the USSR and western capitalist powers in that the exploiting class does not reproduce its domination primarily on the economic level but more on the POLITICAL level. In the USSR , the economy and capital do not control and determine politics, but rather they are controlled by it. The State in the USSR is the crystallisation of the relations of domination of the proletariat by the bourgeoisie not in a relatively autonomous fashion as is the case in western countries but in a direct way, in so far as THE STATE IS THE BOURGEOISIE.

And inside this particularity, the State is caught in the midst of the most peculiar of contradictions. While it claims to be the inheritor of the revolutionary era, fighting against capitalism, it nevertheless bolsters its own capitalist system of exploitation.....a bind which will surely bring the downfall of that State bourgeoisie as capital allied to multinationals develops independently of the State

Conclusion

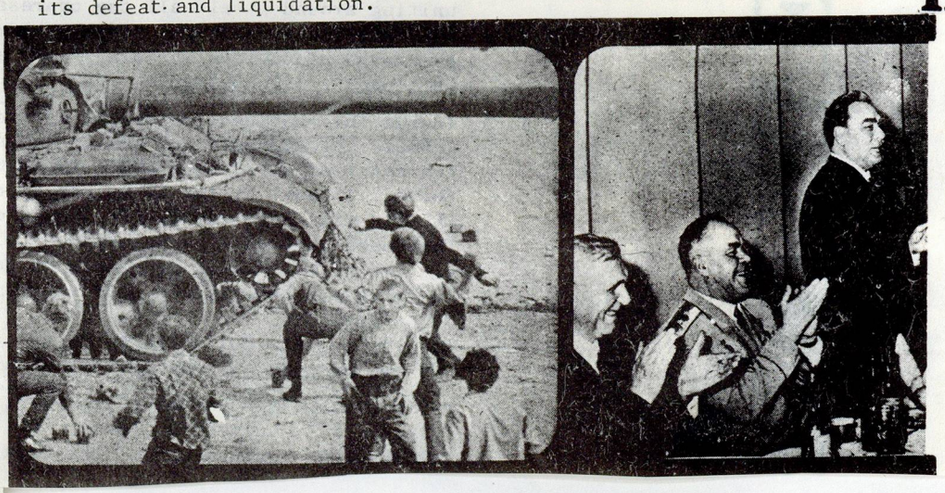
As a conclusion, let us say that the problem of analysis of the USSR is not so much a question of whether the revolution was 'correct' according to communist theory (it never is) but of where we can use the lessons learnt in this period of history to fill out, sharpen, extend that theory and put it to work inside our people in Ireland. To that extent , we feel, we diverge with comrade T.M. (Rebel 33)

For example, one lesson to be learnt from the period 1923-27 and the struggle between the majority of the Party and the Left Opposition, is that by confining the struggle WITHIN the Party, and not opening it to the masses, the LO committed a serious error, leading eventually to its defeat and liquidation.

Another question, - pertinent today, with the increasing domination of multinational capital, is the relation of a socialist economy to them. The present situation in Zimbabwe has we believe much to teach us on this issue.

Many other questions are posed by our study of the history of the USSR. Such as, can we assume that the State of the dictatorship of the proletariat will actively seek to create the conditions of its own 'withering away'....and if we cannot assume it, how can the popular forces ensure that it does take place ? Surely the answer lies in mass participation, mass democracy , mass awareness, class consciousness of the people.....how can a revolutionary organisation ensure these ?

Maybe other readers or comrades of RS will have comments to make on these and other questions.



Some RS comrades in Cork.

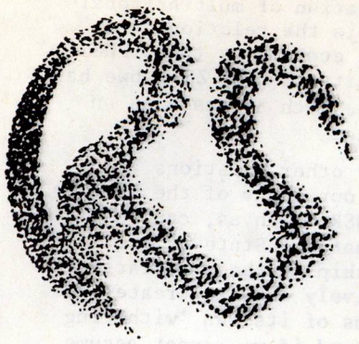
NATIONAL GAY CONFERENCE

May 15 — 17
CORK Connolly Hall

The decision to hold a National Gay Conference...has been a long time in the making . It is now approximately eight years since the very first initiatives were taken in Dublin by just a handful of courageous homosexual people to set up an organisation.....What has now become a commonplace on the lips of thousands.....seemed at that time a daring and almost foolhardy adventure.....From this embryonic situation in Dublin the movement has grown. Cinemas, discos, counselling services and other venues for general entertainment have been firmly established .....Two powerful organisations have grown out of the original nucleus.....one may safely say that we have now arrived at a point where there is a strong gay minority representation in the 32 Counties.

For this reason it is felt by some people throughout the country that the time is now ripe for a general assesment of where gay people are going in Ireland....The theme of the conference...is concern, a growing concern to provide homosexual people with a stromg impetus to set about changing existing structures.

Any further information can be obtained from the Organising Committee , c/o Box 39 , Cork and a Press Conference will be held in due course.



editorial

The last issue of Rebel announced the forthcoming II.National Congress of our organisation around the theme **What type of organisation are we building ?** Rebel 40 also presented a Summary Document of the analysis of the organisation in what concerns the situation in the 32 Counties. In the Document 2 below we present a summary of the major organisational perspectives of Revolutionary Struggle which have guided our activity since 1977:

Document 2: Perspectives

1. We see revolution as a long and protracted process - a prolonged peoples/class war . Revolution is not the exclusive affair of a conscious and politicised minority neither is it a short term insurrectionary process which leads to the replacement of a bourgeois Government by a revolutionary HQs. Our view of revolution is one which directly involves the MAJORITY of the people in the society.

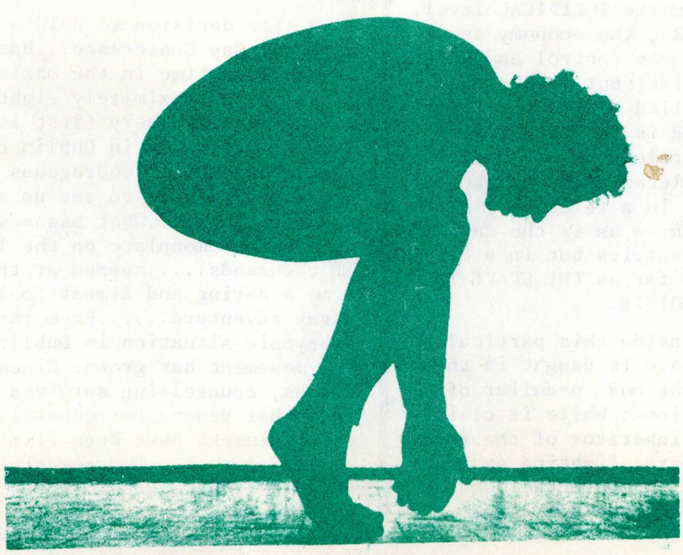
2. The working class, urban and rural, is the CENTRAL force in the revolutionary process. It must become the leading force, capable of uniting around itself all the oppressed and the exploited. Revolutionary intellectuals, small farmers, marginalised youth must all converge around productive workers inside a national anti-imperialist / anti-capitalist movement.

3. Inside this perspective of the strategic centrality of productive labour, the struggle for immediate gains and victories constitutes the heart of our METHODOLOGY. RS is not solely an ideological force...it must strive to become an organisational pole by putting ALL its militants inside the people engaged in mass work. This mass work will be determined by
   a. The needs of working people on questions of income, safety at work and home, freedom of expression and association, civil rights etc.
   b. The need to build the political (in both its ideological and organisational aspects) strength of the people.

4. RS is a vanguard communist organisation made up of conscious and ideologically unified militants. RS is not a substitute for the INDEPENDENT organisation of the working class based on direct action [illegible] decision making.

[illegible] tion separate and distinct from [illegible] from organisations which claim to [illegible] (including RS) .

[illegible] to NATIONALISE OPPOSITION to [illegible] ion - organically connecting [illegible] which develops spontaneously [illegible] e see as our role the providing [illegible] al tools so that independent organisation(s) can develop analysis and practice.



WHERE WE'RE AT

subscribe to rebel:

25 issues of Rebel for £3.00 including postage. Send cheques, postal or money orders to this address. REBEL is self-financing ; we need your support.

Rebel
P.O.Box 1103
29 Mountjoy Square
Dublin 1. IRELAND