



Trawlers 'invasion'

BRITISH AND DUTCH ARE MOVING IN, SAYS MURRIN

By Julien de Kassel, Irish Press Foreign Editor

IRISH FISHING waters are being "invaded" by British fishermen and trawlers from other EEC countries, since the EEC Commission failed to reach agreement with Iceland over mutual fishing rights, according to an Irish trawlermen's leader last night.

News at a glance

£1.5 m. blitz on heart of Derry



A fire bomb attack on the heart of Derry's shopping area early yesterday caused damage estimated at £1.5 million and left at least 100 people without jobs.

Devolution crisis

Devolution legislation is now going through the British parliament and the far-reaching consequences constitutes one of the biggest constitutional crises for Britain.

Millions poisoned

Almost nine million people in the state of Michigan are thought to have a poisonous chemical in their bodies, for which there is no known antidote.

Wilson storm

A political storm blew up at the weekend over Sir Harold Wilson's warning about "infiltrators" in the Labour Party.

Weddings

Sheila Walsh's weddings and engagements column appears on page 9.

URSCEALA

Father pays £844,000 ransom

A 13-year-old Dutch girl, Johanna Berbers, told the press yesterday in Brussels about her five-day ordeal after being kidnapped.

Clergy killed

Nationalist guerrillas ambushed and killed Right Rev. Adolf Schmitt, 71, a former bishop of Bulawayo, a Catholic priest and a nun on a remote road in north-west Rhodesia.

Ice clearing

Hazardous road conditions caused by ice patches improved considerably last night following rainfall and a rise in temperature.

Bus pickets?

A question mark hangs over the operation of a full bus service in Dublin today.

Victim named

The woman who was killed on Saturday in Swords when an articulated lorry went out of control and a load of chip-board it was carrying fell on top of her has been identified as Mrs. Evelyn Harte, aged 65.

League chaos

THE NATIONAL Football League schedule is again in disarray as a result of yesterday's programme, with two important matches being called off and the outcome of several of those played forcing play-offs in certain sections.

On the soccer front, Drogheda United retained their one-point lead at the top of the League of Ireland table by drawing a controversial encounter with Bohemians at Lourdes Stadium.

These birds are panderous fliers and easy targets and people with shotguns can literally massacre them.

Since Friday night, ten British trawlers have been fishing close inshore off Co. Donegal, and last night 12 Dutch trawlers were in Killybegs Harbour waiting to fish in waters around Ireland this morning.

And he warned that unless the Government takes adequate steps to protect fish stocks and fishermen's jobs, they might be forced to act on their own.

"If we have to, we will spend our own money, without Government aid," he said, "to strengthen our vessels so that we will be able to adopt the same measures that Iceland used in its 'cod-war' with Britain and cut the trawl lines of third country vessels which have no legal or moral right to fish in our waters."

"We have never had Dutch fishermen here at this time of the year before," he said. "They do not fish on Sundays but, from what I have seen this evening and from what I have learned from the harbour authorities, it is apparent that they are preparing to move out in the morning into our fishing grounds."

"Nor has there ever been such an invasion of British trawlers in Irish waters. It must have been obvious to our Government as well as to the EEC Commission that when the British were forced out of Icelandic waters, they would turn to Irish fishing grounds."

"But nobody seems to have done anything to anticipate or prevent an invasion on the scale that is now apparently taking place," he added.

"The fishermen's anger at the foreign trawlers' appearance was coupled with impatience over the new EEC quota proposals."

"We have been assured by the Minister that any form of quota limitation on our fish catches will not be acceptable to the Government and will be vetoed in Council," said Mr. Murrin.

"What is particularly worrying is that the E.E.C. has now suggested that the Warsaw Pact countries can take 180,000 tons of fish from community waters next year. This can obviously refer only to Irish waters, because our Community partners have virtually fished out their own stock."

"If it becomes necessary we will protect ourselves. We have already offered trawlers to the Department of Defence which could be armed to protect our rights, but we have had no reply."

Mr. Murrin insisted that the only answer was an exclusive 50 To Page 4

Tears on Bridge of Peace



Tears of joy and sadness as the peace people meet on the new bridge over the Boyne yesterday. Mrs. Betty Williams, of the Northern Peace Movement, and Dr. Ursula O'Neill, of the Southern Peace Movement.

PICTURES: BRIAN BARRON

15,000 march in bitter cold

ALMOST 15,000 people from the North and South of Ireland united on the newly built Bridge of Peace across the Boyne river in Drogheda yesterday defying the freezing cold weather and thick fog.

On the platform were the chief organisers, Betty Williams, Mairead Corrigan and Ciaran McKeown, with members of other groups and well-known personalities, including the American folk singer and pacifist Joan Baez.

Miss Mairead Corrigan told the crowds that everybody knew about William of Orange and the Battle of the Boyne but December 6 this year would be remembered as a day the Irish fought a new kind of battle.

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Conference call to purge the UDR End suspicion, says SDLP

THE S.D.L.P. annual conference yesterday unanimously decided that in the light of recent court cases, events and revelations, all members of the Ulster Defence Regiment should be thoroughly reassessed in order that all suspicion and fears may be removed.

A move by the Strabane branch, led by Mr. Ivan Cooper, to have the conference call for the regiment to be disbanded was not followed through because it was feared that such a call would be misinterpreted.

There was overwhelming condemnation for the involvement in the regiment of loyalist para-militaries, and the conference also called for those members of the R.U.C. and the British army responsible for torture to be made amenable to justice.

One of the most outspoken critics of the U.D.R. in the past has been Mr. Seamus Mallon, and yesterday he declared that he would continue to highlight activities by members of the U.D.R. which were not in accordance with the impartial implementation of the rule of law.

Rejected

Mr. Mallon said that the U.D.R., an integral part of the British army, was infested by loyalist para-militaries and had been responsible for murder, arson and rape. Apart from the cases which have already gone through the courts, there were some which had not yet come to court, and there was the question of arms stolen from U.D.R. centres which had been used in sectarian murders.

He totally rejected loyalist criticism that he and his colleagues had blood on their hands because of their attacks on the regiment, and added: "I regret the death by violence of any single human being, and that includes the U.D.R."

He went on: "Indisputably in the U.D.R. there is an extreme loyalist ethic, in a force which is supposed to be impartial. There is disquiet, not just in the S.D.L.P., but in the Unionist community as well about the recruitment procedures and standards in the U.D.R. The U.D.R. is part of the British army and if there is a withdrawal, then Britain will have to withdraw every part of her army, including the U.D.R."

Mr. Michael Canavan, the party spokesman on law and order, said that the Provisional I.R.A. campaign against the U.D.R. has been intensified lately, with tragic consequences for both traditions in the community. He condemned as totally sectarian, the Provisional attacks on the U.D.R., and blamed the sectarian killings which followed on the Provos.

"Everyone in the U.D.R. should be security screened as the security system is not working," he said.

Mr. Ivan Cooper, also condemned the murders of U.D.R. men and charged loyalist politicians with not being consistent in their condemnations of murders. He claimed that there were certain politicians in the U.U.U.C. who had close links with the loyalist para-militaries and that the para-militaries had infiltrated the U.D.R. Over 140 members of the regiment had been convicted of murder and other crimes such as explosives offences.

"It is our responsibility to highlight this situation and not be intimidated into staying silent by loyalist politicians," he said. Mr. Cooper said he had information that the British Government intended to increase the number of full time U.D.R. men and at the same time leave the British Army only in three centres, Derry, South Armagh and Belfast.

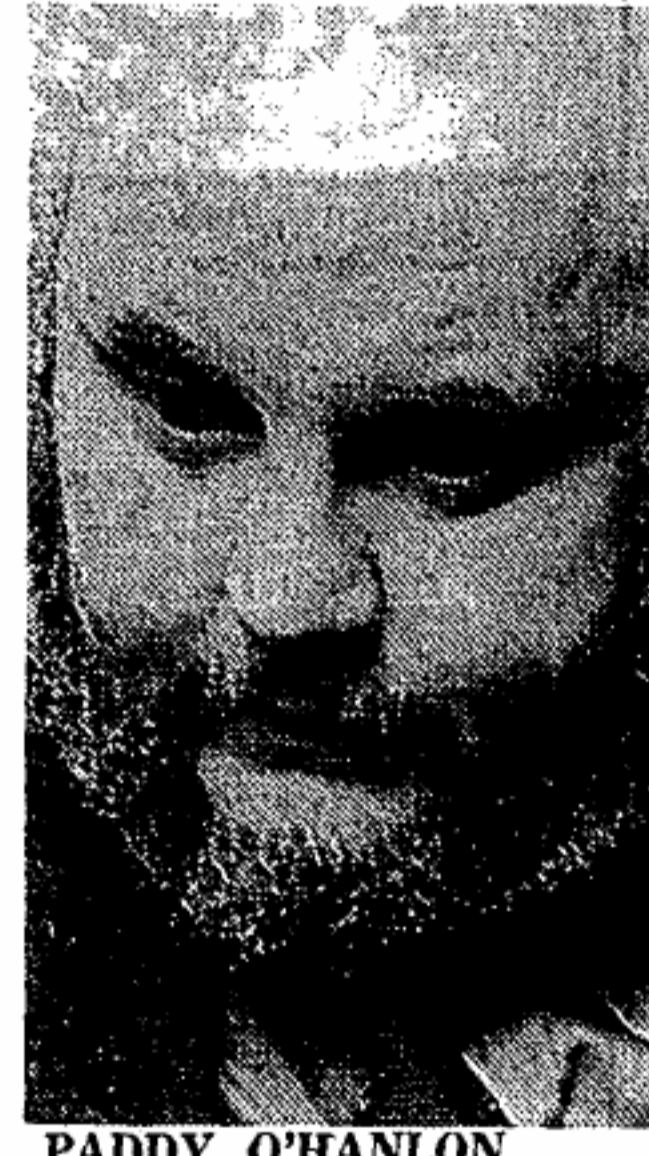
Supporting the motion for re-vetting of members, Mr. Cooper said that there were in its ranks men who were not loyal to the Crown and who brought a stigma to the word security by taking part in the bigoted activities.

Tom Gillen, Newtownabbey, said it was not realistic to call for the disbanding of the U.D.R., but there must be thorough investigations into the background of its members and prospective recruits.

"On the torture issue, the Irish Government was congratulated by delegates on following through cases at the court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and Mr. Eamonn O'Neill, from Newcastle, said that there were men still in the force, who had been promoted to positions of responsibility, even though it was known that they had been engaged in torture of suspects when internment was introduced in 1971.



GERRY FITT . . . voted against withdrawal motion.



PADDY O'HANLON . . . warning on civil war.



IVAN COOPEY . . . voted for withdrawal.

Port policeman dies in crash

A harbour policeman, Mr. Ronald McCarthy, married, from the Beaumont area of Dublin, was killed in a traffic accident at East Wall Road, Dublin, last night.

He was driving a Port and Docks Board Land Rover towards Fairview when it struck a parked trailer. A passenger in the Land Rover was detained in Jervis Street Hospital suffering from shock.

Fr. Rice is home 'without a penny'

By JEAN SHERIDAN PENNILESS and without a personal belonging in the world apart from letters and his passport, Fr. Patrick Rice arrived safely home in Fermoy last night after eight weeks in Argentinian jails and permanent expulsion from the country where he had served the poor and downtrodden for the past six years.

It will be his first Christmas at home in 13 years, although he did not know he would be home for it this year. He had, he said, never doubted that he would come out alive from prison.

It was bitterly cold and rain and high winds were lashing Cork Airport when the plane touched down. His five brothers were on the tarmac to welcome him. As he walked towards them in the piercing rain and they saw that he was wearing only light clothes and white canvas shoes, his eldest brother took off his warm coat and put it on him.

Sitting at a table in the VIP lounge, Fr. Rice, who belongs to a French Community, The Little Brothers of Charles de Foucauld, was interviewed by reporters and hesitantly answered some of the questions. He explained that he has spoken little English for years and is still thinking in Spanish.

His very first words to reporters were "My main interest now is in what is happening to the people of Argentina. A week ago, a brother from my Community disappeared in similar circumstances to mine and we do not know what has happened to him, or whether he is alive."

"I would prefer not to talk of what is happening there until you go to London on Tuesday, The Catholic Institute and Amnesty International have asked me to go back to London to meet them and first I will talk to them and then to the Press."

When asked directly whether he had been badly treated or had suffered, Fr. Rice considered for a moment before answering guardedly. "In the Argentinian situation one normally suffers ill treatment. It is a military situation."

On the background to his arrest, Fr. Rice said that there were always plenty of Civil Police in the streets of Buenos Aires and anyone walking around was liable to be arrested. On October 11, when talking to an Argentinian girl who came to him for help on a personal problem, a truck stopped beside them and a man came out of it and pointing a revolver at him, shouted "stop, or be shot!"

He was then taken away in the truck, no charge was made against him, there was no trial and he never saw a judge. The police declaration on which he was freed stated that they found no cause against him.

"I got the usual sort of treatment one gets in Argentina. I was in two jails, both in Buenos Aires and I think there were about 80 other prisoners in my compound, of which 10 were priests."

"This was a political prison and he received political treatment, adding: "perhaps this is to one's advantage."

"I would love to go back there amongst them. They have become my friends, and I have been theirs, but I don't know what the future holds for me now. I will just wait, instruction from my Superior, in France."

Swans 'shot for dog food'

HUNDREDS of native and migrant swans are being slaughtered in Donegal and their nests are being looted and destroyed, according to the vice-chairman of the Letterkenny Board of Fishery Conservators, Mr. Patsy O'Donnell, who claims that the carcasses and eggs are being sold as dog food to greyhound owners.

The native mute swan is not yet protected under law but the migrant species, the whooper and bewick swans, which visit lakes and estuaries in Donegal in winter, are under an old Act, and Mr. O'Donnell has called on the Department of Lands to take immediate action.

"These birds are panderous fliers and easy targets and people with shotguns can literally massacre them. We think the culprits are mostly from across the border and cars

have been seen heading into Derry with their boots packed with dead swans."

Mr. O'Donnell said that one flock, with a traditional habitat at Blanket Nook on Lough Swilly, about five miles from the Derry border, has been almost wiped out.

"Most of the dead birds are being sold to greyhound owners in Derry. The swans are protected in the North and recently we had to put down a swan which had been hit with gunshot in the wing and leg and had its eye blinded," Mr. Carlton said.

"The migrant swans only started arriving about five weeks ago and as they make a loud trumpeting noise they are particularly easy targets. We have seen several birds out on water dragging broken wings and recently we had to put down a swan which had been hit with gunshot in the wing and leg and had its eye blinded," Mr. Carlton said.

Orange verdict

An Orangeman who claimed he was the Scots UDA chief when taking part in a television programme where it was alleged arms were being sent from Scotland to Northern Protestants, was on Saturday cleared by Orange delegates of discrediting the order.

At least we can protect the migrant species under the old Wild Birds Protection Act and this will be strengthened and also include the native mute swan when the new Wildlife Bill is enacted.

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