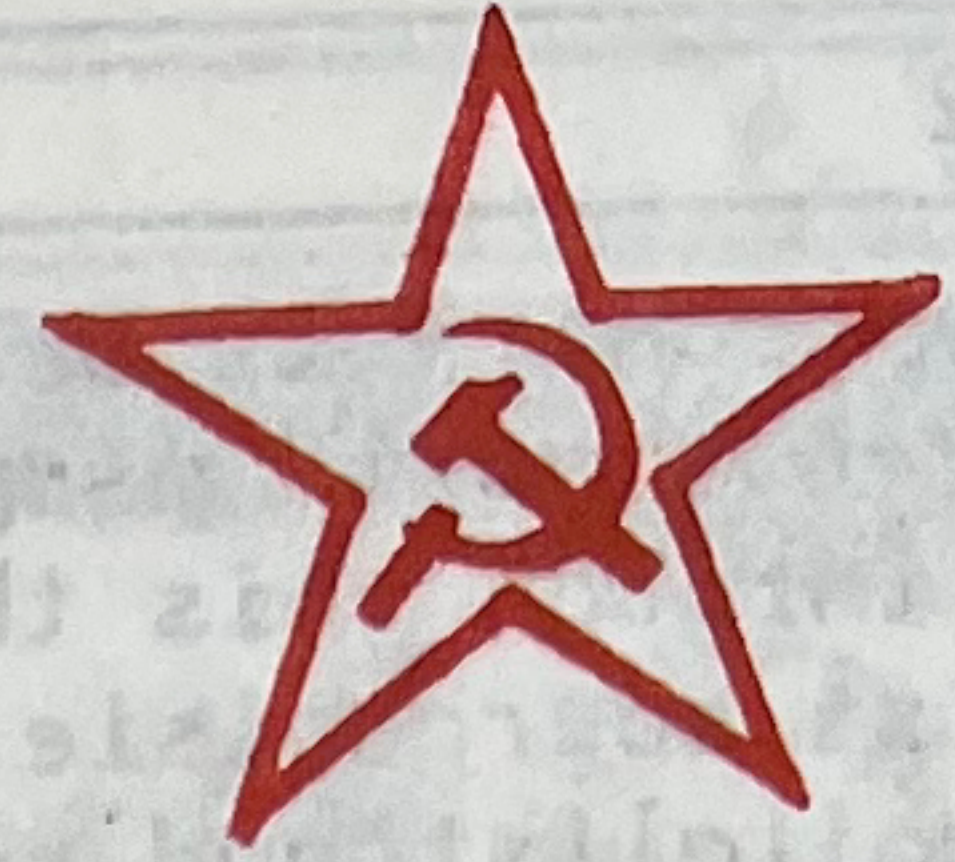


Workers of all countries unite!

RED PATRIOT



May 1st
1984

Vol. 7.
No. 5 *An Tírghráthóir Dearg*

ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIST)

HAIL MAY DAY! WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES UNITE!

Comrade Workers!

Today is the day on which the workers throughout the world celebrate their unity as a class, their opposition to capitalism and imperialism, and their historic destiny to bury this whole rotten system and the parasitic exploiting bourgeoisie along with it.

For today, just as in the time of Marx and Engels, the whole world is divided between two main classes which stand in opposition to each other -- the capitalist and imperialist bourgeoisie on the one hand, and the working class, the international proletariat on the other. In fact, since the days of Marx and Engels the process of the

polarisation of these two great opposing camps has advanced much further, with the increasingly rapid eradication of all the intermediate strata of petty bourgeoisie by the advance of monopoly capitalism throughout all countries, by the elimination of the peasants and small farmers from the land, the small producers and businesses by the big monopolies and so on.

However apparently powerful the capitalist and imperialist bourgeoisie, this class is a decadent class, doomed to extinction. Monopoly capitalism or imperialism is capitalism at its final stage, a totally parasitic system which is moribund and on its death bed. The problems of economic

crisis on the world scale is the inevitable product of this rotten system, where the pursuit of profit is its sole motive force and where private ownership by this class is holding back the expansion of the means of production, which must necessarily be expanded to meet the needs of the working people of the world. It is the continued existence of this selfish and parasitic class which has plunged countless millions into unemployment and, in many countries, into mass starvation. And now it is escalating the arms race and preparations for another world war, which whether waged with conventional or nuc-

Contd. P.2 - MAY DAY.

Reagan visit

WHAT KIND OF OPPOSITION IS THIS?

With mounting opposition of the people of Ireland to the coming visit of Ronald Reagan, the notorious fascist butcher and warmonger -- the main capitalist parties have been thrown into disarray. Originally they had hoped that the Reagan visit would be viewed as a feather in their cap and they were particularly hoping that the representative of this big superpower would intervene in Ireland by assisting them in deceiving the Irish people over the proceedings of the New Ireland Forum, by giving it the seal of his approval.

But all their hopes are back-firing as one by one they are being forced to make statements "disagreeing" with U.S. foreign policy, especially in Central America.

The Labour Party at its annual Conference took the pathetic



Nicaraguan People's Militia during a drill.

stand that Mr. Spring should give Reagan a petition opposing foreign policy in Central America - whilst allowing party members to participate in "peaceful demonstrations".

Fianna Fail spokesman, Niall Andrews said that "...I oppose President Reagan's foreign pol-

icy, but I think the people of Ireland should receive him with all due courtesy whilst making him aware of their concern over these policies".

Young Fine Gael which had made much about its "opposition" to Reagan initially, has now

Contd. P. 7 - REAGAN

lear weapons will be catastrophic for the world people. And it is through this that the imperialist bourgeoisie of all the capitalist and revisionist countries, led by the two superpowers, U.S. imperialists and Soviet social imperialism, is planning mass destruction of the means of production and the people of all countries in order to bring itself out of this crisis. This is the threat of this tyrant class of monopolists, which it is wielding as blackmail to try to stave off its overthrow and the final destruction of its rotten system.

Comrade Workers!

Whatever the death-bed threats and dying kicks of this rotten bourgeoisie, the future of the world lies in the hands of the world's working class, the international proletariat. But this bright future can only be won through struggle, through self-sacrifice, through revolution to overthrow the rotten old order.

A frightful myth has been fostered for decades by the traitors to the working class, who have paraded themselves as the "true leaders of the workers" -- the social democrats and revisionists, the sham socialists, sham communists and the trade union and labour aristocracy. This myth is that, while they "agree" that only socialism can solve the problems produced by capitalism, this "socialism" can be brought about by "peacefully transforming" capitalism, by "exploiting the ballot box and parliamentary democracy" and so on.

This was the myth which the social-democratic traitors of the old "Labour" parties put about around the beginning of the century in deliberate betrayal of the teachings of the founders of scientific socialism, Marx and Engels, who had inspired and directly organised for the very foundation of their parties. In fact, these traitors became the recruiting sergeants for the imperialists when the ruling class launched the first imperialist world war to solve the crisis of their day. Millions of ordinary working people were forced into the slaughter houses prepared by the imperialists, with the assistance of their agents in

the ranks of the working class movement.

Today these "Labour" parties -- or "socialist" parties are playing the same game. In fact they have become fully fledged capitalist parties in their own right. Mitterand's so-called "socialist" government of France is right now waging a vicious neo-colonial imperialist war in Chad. Papandreu's "socialist" government in Greece is fanning up chauvinist hysteria against the genuine socialist system of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania on instructions from U.S. imperialism and the CIA. The British "Labour Party" has long played the same role for the British bourgeoisie, being the government which first sent the British army onto the streets, in the recent period, to suppress the Irish people in the north in 1969, just as one example. And the Irish "Labour" party, ever since its immediate betrayal of its founder, James Connolly in 1916, helped the national traitors establish the "Free State" in collaboration with British imperialism; and is now in government in coalition with the party, which tried to establish fascism in the 1920s and 1930s with the Blueshirts - Fine Gael -- carrying through the imperialist policy to make the working people of Ireland pay for the crisis with cuts in education, social welfare, wages freeze etc.

Most dangerous and treacherous of all are the traitors of the Soviet Union today. These revisionists, led by Krushchev in 1956, re-established capitalism in Russia, betraying Lenin and Stalin, betraying the socialist system and the proletariat of the Soviet Union and the world, and turned the USSR into an imperialist superpower to rival U.S. imperialism. Like the social-democrats before them, they are trying to fool the working class and the oppressed people and nations of the world with this myth of "peaceful" change while they actually stoke the furnace for a world nuclear holocaust, invade other countries such as Afghanistan and oppress countries through their puppets, as in Poland and the other "satellites". Along with their partners in crime, U.S.

imperialism, the Soviet revisionists are blackmailing the working class and the oppressed nations that they must not make revolution or risk the intervention of the imperialists and the detonation of world war. Through those who support the Soviet Union in Ireland, such as the revisionist sham "Communist" Party of Ireland of Michael O Riordan and the social-democratic "Workers" Party, the Soviet Union is joining U.S. imperialism and our national enemy British imperialism in brow beating the working class and the oppressed Irish nation against revolution, and holding out the same old myth of "peaceful change".

What all this shows is that the social-democrats and revisionists of the sham "labour", sham "socialist" and sham "communist" parties, including the so-called "official" leadership of the trade unions which have themselves become an arm of the bourgeois state to suppress the workers, are hand in glove with the enemies of the working class, with the capitalist and imperialist bourgeoisie. If the working class is to seize its destiny in its hands and save the world's people and the oppressed nations from another catastrophe, the workers must break the influence of these traitors who claim to speak in their name, and must take the path of revolution.

Comrade workers!

The guardian of the whole rotten order of world capitalism in Ireland is British imperialism -- the age-old aggressor which has violated the just democratic rights of the Irish nation to its freedom, and which has actually divided our people and our country by partition since 1921. British imperialism, the national enemy, and its illegal colonial annexation of the north must be overthrown, and along with it the national traitors, the Irish monopoly bourgeoisie ranging from the Unionists to the "Free" Staters who collaborate to protect British domination.

The labour traitors who stand up hypocritically each May Day to mouth platitudes about "internationalism", "solidarity with workers in other countries" etc. (plus a few empty threats about "taking on"

the Coalition and Thatcher monetarists) are utterly speechless when it comes to denouncing British imperialism. All they ever denounce are the Irish people, the patriots who are justly fighting the foreign aggressor and the communists who are organising for revolution. These things they term to be "adventurism", "actively helping the capitalists and the British government by splitting the working class on sectarian lines and by reactionary nationalism".

But all these are lies in support of British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class. The struggle to free the nation from imperialist domination is an entirely just and revolutionary struggle. The struggle of the working class for socialism must necessarily encompass the struggle for national liberation. For how is it possible for the working class to win political power whilst the nation is colonially and neo-colonially dominated by a foreign power? -- when the nation itself does not even have the right to decide its own affairs free from imperialist intervention and interference? Furthermore it is British imperialism and the national traitors which have deliberately incited and created sectarianism in order to split the working class on religious lines in order to try and get them to unite with "their own" sections of the bourgeoisie. For this not only gives the British imperialists the excuse to intervene and maintain its colonial rule (under the hoax of "keeping the peace") - but it also prevents the working class from uniting in revolutionary struggle against the entire imperialist system in Ireland which includes the struggle against the native Irish capitalist class, no matter whether it calls itself "unionist" or "Free Stater". The socialist system cannot be brought in in Ireland until the nation has cut all links with the imperialist system - whether this be British imperialist domination or the importation of U.S., Japanese, German etc. capital, "investment" etc.

It is in this context that the watchword of James Connolly, the great patriotic martyr and militant organiser of the Irish working class, must be our watch-



MAY DAY IN PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

word today :

"The cause of Ireland is the cause of labour; and the cause of labour is the cause of Ireland"

This is not some "narrow" or "reactionary" nationalism, but on the contrary a truly internationalist stand. For a blow against imperialism in one part of the world is of concrete assistance to all the people of the world struggling for their freedom.

The workers must get organised under the leadership of its own Marxist-Leninist Communist Party; must wage class struggle to Make the Rich Pay for the Crisis and organise for the revolution to overthrow British imperialism and re-unite the country. For it is only if the working class comes into leadership of these struggles that the carrying through of the revolution to establish socialism can be assured.

This year the working class and people of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, with a population of less than 3 million people, celebrates 40 years of liberation and the successful construction of socialism. But this forty years of independence and the abolition of class exploitation was only made poss-

ible through the revolution -- by the overthrow and expulsion of the foreign occupation of Mussolini's fascists and Hitler's nazis, and through carrying the revolution through to the end, to the establishment of socialism. It was the leadership of the people by the working class, and in particular by its Marxist-Leninist party, the Communist Party of Albania (now the Party of Labour) with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, that this heroic achievement was made possible. Albania has been made the bastion of socialism against imperialism and the traitors to socialism who have become imperialists. It has been made truly a socialist homeland for the world's working class. And it is an inspiration to the oppressed people and nation's fighting for national independence and against the two superpowers preparations for another world war.

On May Day, we salute the working class throughout the world in their struggles for freedom, independence and socialism and especially pay tribute to the working people of Socialist Albania whose living achievements spur the workers throughout the world onto fresh victories.

Progressive Books & Periodicals

CLASSICS OF MARX, ENGELS LENIN AND STALIN.

LITERATURE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIS)

LITERATURE FROM THE PEOPLES SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

(Mail orders to P.O. Box 695, Dublin 8)

ZERIPOPULLIT
ORGAN I KOMITETIT QENDOR TE PPSh

HANDS OFF ALBANIA!

On March 1st, Zeri i Popullit organ of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, carried an important article denouncing the attacks and slanders against Socialist Albania which are being carried out in concert by the Greek reactionaries, Serb chauvinists and the Pope of Rome, instigated by U.S. imperialism and its espionage agencies. Red Patriot is printing below the report on this article broadcast by Radio Tirana.:

Recently a broadscale campaign of attacks and calumnies against Socialist Albania has been rampant in several neighbouring countries. This time, in a joint chorus, the "Northern Epirus" Association, the Serb chauvinists and the Pope of Rome are screaming themselves hoarse that in Albania human rights allegedly are not respected, religion is prohibited from being practiced, that allegedly our country doesn't fit in the Balkans, and so on.

It is obvious that this hostile campaign is being conducted according to a carefully drafted script and with a producer who has selected his actors with the utmost diligence. The thread which moves this anti-Albanian triangle can easily be traced back to Washington, to the CIA and other headquarters which specialise in the struggle against socialism and the freedom loving countries.

The attacks and combined slanders of the Great Serbs, "Northern Epirus Association and the Pope of Rome which are directed by the American imperialists, are organised because they detest the development of Socialist Albania which is successfully building socialism and doing so with its own forces. These attacks are organised because they detest the independent and revolutionary policy of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, which exposes American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, the bourgeoisie and fascism, which defends the interests of its own people and those of other peoples of the world. The chorus of anti-Albanian reaction is also organised by those who are not interested in the principled and

consistent policy of good-neighbourliness which our country pursues, the constructive stand of Albania as a factor of genuine peace and stability in the Balkans.

Further on the article stresses: The Albanian people resolutely condemn this hostile campaign and denounce it before all world opinion as a dangerous plot spearheaded not only against our country, but designed to allow and strengthen the feeling of hostility and confrontation among the peoples of the Balkans to once again transform our peninsula into a powderkeg and an open field for the intervention of the imperialist powers.

Currently Greek reaction, which has become extremely deafening and provocative, is rabidly building its force against our country. Contrary to the genuine desires of the Greek people and openly damaging them, contrary to the good results which have been achieved over the years in the relations between the two countries, Greek reaction is trying to revive a bankrupt problem which does not even exist -- that of the so-called Northern Epirus. In an effort to create an anti-Albanian spirit within the country, the Greek rightist press has put its pages at the disposal of the notorious ultrachauvinists, professional provocateurs and all the dregs and rabble of Greek society. The chauvinist Greek reactionaries have also organised provocative demonstrations in front of our embassy in Athens and, with their hoodlum activities, have inhibited its normal work procedures.

The anti-Albanian demonstrations in Athens and the provocations against our embassy, as the Greek press has broadly promoted, commenced precisely following the return from the United States of America of the infamous Bishop Serafim and his two Albanian servitors, where they had held meetings and talks with various American functionaries who specialise in Balkan problems and secured assistance and support for this outrageous anti-Albanian activity. It is a fact that the whole

of anti-Albanian reaction suddenly swung into action, following the statement of the Chairman of a subcommittee of the American Senate that in close collaboration with the Reagan administration, the necessary acts would be undertaken to defend human rights and religion in Albania. According to the instructions it received, Greek reaction placed the Greek minority in Albania, which is allegedly oppressed and persecuted, at the centre of its campaign against our country.

But the Greek minority in Albania is not in need of the defence of Athens or Washington. It has decided its own fate, freely and in full sovereignty. It took this decision with the people's revolution when, shoulder to shoulder with their Albanian brothers, the members of that minority fought to liquidate capitalist exploitation and national oppression. The rights they won in this revolution are guaranteed them by the Constitution of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, by the new socialist life which they are building with their own hands. The people of the minority have neither more nor fewer rights than the Albanians. They have the same rights and duties towards the country and the society, enjoy the full fruits of socialism equally and fight the same way, with confidence and devotion, so as to guarantee themselves an even better future. The victories they have gained, the conditions which socialism has created for the minority are now known and recognised by the whole world. The zones inhabited by the minorities are open and many foreigners who have come to our country have gone and talked to the people there. The majority of these visitors have been Greeks, who have had the opportunity to see whatever they have desired and to talk with whoever they have wanted to. With the exception of one or two people who have deliberately come here with ill intentions in mind, all the others have pointed out the immense progress of the minority. They have witnessed the correctness of the solution of

problems. They have proved with concrete evidence from their daily life how dangerous and provocative the propaganda of Greek reaction on the so-called Northern Epirus is. Ministers of different Greek governments, diplomats and top state functionaries, writers and journalists tourists and ordinary visitors, have written articles in the Greek press and have addressed public meetings in the same spirit. "Today", stated one of them before the Greek Parliament on March 1st 1982, following his visit to Albania and the zones inhabited by the Greek minority "Albania defends the interests of the minorities with the Constitution and does not grant them fewer rights than those of the Albanian people. The newspaper of the Greek minority is published in the Greek language, and four- and eight-year schools function in Greek, and there is also a school for training elementary level teachers". Therefore the statement of the Greek Prime Minister Papandreu that the Greeks in Albania are in a very difficult situation and that the Greek government will fight for their total rights is as strange as it is groundless. Perhaps the reasons that compelled Mr Papandreu to emerge publicly with such a statement - and which constitutes an act of intervention into the affairs of a neighbouring state -- are amongst the most varied, but in any case, this statement is completely groundless.

The anti-Albanian campaign of Greek reaction which is being whipped up into a fury openly runs counter to the political statements of the Greek government that it tends towards and desires the establishment of friendly relations with neighbouring countries, the achievements of all-round cooperation with the Balkan countries, the adoption of every kind of measure which would contribute to the strengthening of peace and security on our peninsula. To the provocative and fascist statements of the mouthpieces of the so-called New Democracy which demands the alteration of the status of borders and brings up the question of the partitioning of southern Albania, the Albanian people reply "Hands off Albania!" As Comrade Enver Hoxha has said, "Its borders are inviolable. Within these borders, there is not a

single inch of foreign territory".

Recently, continues the article further on, the Pope of Rome has also joined in the campaign against our country. It is obvious that Pope Wojtyla has been charged with a special mission to blacken Albania and denigrate the Albanian people, which it must be said, he is discharging with the greatest zeal. Twice within three years, something extraordinary in the thousand year history of the Popes of Rome, he has gone down to the coast of Puglia opposite our country and has cursed the impious Albanians. Whether acting on his own or on the orders of others, the fact is that his speech from the steps of the basilica of Saint Nicole in Bari constitutes a supporting voice in the anti-Albanian liturgy being sung by the reactionary despots in the church circles in Athens. It is a fact that, just as the Greek reactionaries with their acts are trying to prevent and stop the further normalisation of relations of good neighbourliness between Greece and Albania, so Pope Wojtyla is concerned about the trend and desire of the Italian people, particularly in Puglia and other zones of the south to create and preserve a friendly atmosphere between the two countries, something which is welcomed and hailed in Albania too.

As far as the so-called concern of the Pope over the situation of religion in Albania is concerned, it must be stated that in new Albania no one has ever been persecuted for his religious beliefs. Our people's power has regarded the question of religion as a personal problem of the individual, as a question of conscience. Our people, of their own free will and without the slightest imposition themselves decided their stand towards religion and religious institutions. Therefore, no one has the right to demand and even less to force our people to believe in God or to practice religious ritual. For our part, we do not demand that others must not believe in God or follow our example. We Albanians do not base our respect and consideration for other people on whether or not they believe in God, but on their freedom-loving, democratic and progressive

values. Our atheism has never hindered us from maintaining good relations with those who are believers and those who are not.

In conclusion, we would like to state that there are atheists not only in Albania, but also in France, in Sweden and in all countries. But we have never seen Pope Wojtyla get so heated up about them as he does about the Albanians. It is clear that his inspiration here does not come from God but from anti-communism. As far as he is concerned, you can believe in the devil himself if you like, but must never accept socialism. This is why the Pope is not in the slightest embarrassed when he borrows the ideas and words of Mussolini. In his speech in Bari, the Pope said, "My thoughts go out to the brothers and sisters in Albania. I would like to assure them that they occupy a special place in my heart". Il Duce also said "I have Albania at heart". But Albania is not Poland, and the Albanians do not bow for the present Pope, just as they refused to do so in the time of Il Duce and of the other Popes, who gave fascism their blessing and collaborated with it to attack and plunder the freedom of the peoples.

Perhaps it would not be of very great value to concentrate in this article on some of the anti-Albanian statements of the top Yugoslav leaders. We have replied to their calumnies and attacks and have explained things to the world opinion in connection with the chauvinist aims and intentions of Belgrade towards our country. But in the current anti-Albanian campaign, they are playing a role of first-rate importance in unison with Greek reaction and the Vatican. The chauvinist hatred they have for Socialist Albania and all Albanians leads the chieftains of Belgrade into collaboration and plots with anyone and the hatching up of every intrigue imaginable against our country. One Greek newspaper of February 25th, 1984 stigmatises this diabolical activity as follows; "We unconsciously became accomplices in the extremely dubious stand of the Yugoslavs against Albania who have repeatedly manifested tendencies towards its partitioning". Part and parcel of the intrigues of the Yugoslav

leaders is a long article printed in the principal Yugoslav newspaper "Borba" on February 25-26, which clearly reveals the efforts of Belgrade to drive wedges into the cordial and friendly relations existing between Albania and Italy. This article clearly shows that the real policy of the Yugoslavs is that of inciting hostility between the neighbouring countries irrespective of their demagogy that they are allegedly in favour of open relations, cooperation and good understanding among the countries of the Balkans, the Adriatic, the Mediterranean etc.

In the current phase of the intensification of Yugoslav-American political and military relations and of the approaching harmony between "Northern Epirus" and the Great-Serb chauvinism, the chieftains of Belgrade are stepping up the attacks and calumnies against Albania, with the aim of diverting the attention of public opinion from Kosova. By presenting themselves as specialists on Albania, as if they are the only ones who can understand and interpret events, the Belgrade puppets are trying to convince opinion that Albania is creating the tension in the Balkans, that allegedly Albania constituted a danger to peace in general. But the Albanians have never been the provocateurs of war. It is, however, publicly known for example, that the First World War did not begin either in Shkodra or in Gjirokastra (in Albania Ed.), but in Sarajevo. And this was no coincidence. Serbia at that time had become a battlefield where the powers of the Entente and the Central Bloc clashed and squabbled. Today, too, the policy of the game of equilibrium between the two superpowers which is implemented by Yugoslavia, the promises which it makes to both sides, has transformed it into a target of imperialist rivalry. As a country up to its neck in debt and innumerable obligations to the West and East, the Yugoslav ship is sailing into the waters of the unknown. Today Yugoslavia is open to all the combinations and interventions of the superpowers, not only endangering itself but its neighbours too. The efforts of the Yugoslav leaders to present the blackest possible picture of Socialist Albania, to accuse it of

being responsible for the international strife and trouble in Yugoslavia, do not alleviate the situation. Yugoslavia is the sick man of the Balkans, and the world can see this. The joy which the anti-Albanian screaming of Greek reaction or the diabolical attacks of the Vatican against Albania brings to those ruling in Belgrade will never be able to cure it. Not even the assurances of America that it will try to "soften" Albania will be able to cure it.

No one can divert Albania from its socialist road, from

its principled policy -- neither America, the despots of Greece nor the Vatican, the Serb chauvinists, nor anyone else who may unite with them. The Albanians are not a weak-kneed people. Threats and blackmail can never make them budge. The Albanian people have won their freedom and independence, their people's power. They have paved this road with bloodshed and sacrifice and will never permit anyone to violate or plunder it. Let the dogs bark, our caravan will go ahead.

Economic Planning Board Report

Bourgeoisie plans further attacks on working people

The recently released report of the National Planning Board shows again just how little the bourgeoisie have to offer the people of Ireland. The report, much vaunted as the "pooling of the best economic brains for the solution of our economic ills etc", in fact shows that the bourgeoisie has no plans for the people of Ireland at all except for their increased exploitation and impoverishment. Described as a set of "radical proposals, aimed at maximising employment and output," the report can only in its best estimates come up with a proposed 1,000 extra jobs in the first year with a possible 4,000 in subsequent years. This in relation to the fact of in excess of 220,000 unemployed. Even to achieve this the report advocated that the present levels of over-taxation of the incomes of the working people is maintained, that domestic rates be re-introduced, that unemployment benefits, redundancy payments and retirement payments, be taxed; that the tax relief on mortgages be reduced to only the first 5 years of a first time house buyer, and that even the small tax exemption for workers' savings on deposit accounts in banks are abolished. Other measures include those for making students pay back money over 10 years to pay 25% of the current economic cost of their education.

All these measures represent a massive proposed attack on the livelihood and welfare of the working people, whilst the rich and the foreign imperialist companies will be able (in

fact encouraged) to make greater and greater profits from the exploitation of the workers, continuing to make fortunes as the workers are forced further and further into the hopelessness of unemployment and poverty. The report refuses to answer any of the basic questions that the workers are asking about the economy and the country -- that how come there is so much unemployment and poverty in an Ireland full of abundant agricultural, mineral and human resources. It fails entirely to point out the truth that it is the control of the economy by foreign multinationals and the organisation of the economy for the sole purpose of maximising the private profits of the rich and imperialists, that is the factor that is preventing the development of the productive capacity of the country and the wealth of the people. As such this report only gives us an insight into the plans that the bourgeoisie have for the people and show that it is only by the workers, both employed and unemployed intensifying their resistance to all the measures of the government that they can have any strategy or hope for the future. More than anything else, the report shows the complete incapacity of the capitalist system to solve the problems facing the people and demonstrates that once again it is only when the roadblock of the political power and system of the bourgeoisie is removed that the great wealth of Ireland can be made available to the people.

changed its "tactics" of having a meeting to "oppose" Reagan during his visit, to having a meeting before his visit !

And thus we are continually hearing from these bourgeois politicians that all "opposition" should be "courteous", "peaceful" etc. from the standpoint of "making our feelings known to Reagan". But what kind of opposition is this ?

The fact of the matter is that Reagan is the representative of U.S. monopoly capitalism, which is engaged in ruthless and murderous activities throughout the world. It is directly propping up, and arming and otherwise assisting openly fascist regimes in many countries throughout the world. It is intervening more and more directly in affairs in Latin America to preserve its "vital interests", which besides its strategic interests can be best illustrated by the fact that American monopolies profits from Latin America are FIVE TIMES greater than their investments -- and all this at the cost of great impoverishment and misery of the people there. At this moment the biggest military exercises in the history of Central America are being carried out. The exercises code-named "Grenadero One", include thousands of U.S. and Honduran troops. And from May 23, 1,000 U.S. combat troops and 1,600 Honduran troops will stage counter-insurgency exercises along the Nicaraguan border. The probability of an attempted invasion of Nicaragua, like the invasion of Grenada seems ever more likely as U.S. imperialism continues on its warmongering course. All these activities, at the cost of tens of thousands of lives, are part and parcel of the contention of the U.S. imperialists with the Soviet social imperialists for world domination -- and which is moving the world ever nearer the outbreak of a catastrophic world war.

Surely if these bourgeois politicians and parties in Ireland actually oppose U.S. imperialist warmongering policies and activities from the simple standpoint of justice and principle, they would not allow the warmonger to put one foot on Irish soil. Because they have not taken this stand, but instead have taken

the active role in inviting him here in the first place, their "petitions", "disagreements" and "appeals" to Reagan "to change his mind" must be viewed with a great deal of scepticism. Likewise their appeals to the Irish people to be "courteous", "peaceful" and adopt the standpoint of protesting with the view to "putting pressure" on Reagan, is likewise a total deception. For fascists and warmongers like Reagan and the class he represents, do not bat an eyelid at murdering thousands of people, impoverishing whole nations and launching invasions etc. They are not "reasonable" and "honest" men and they will stop at nothing in pursuit of their ambitions of world domination, even the launching of a nuclear holocaust.

The demonstrations which will be taking place in opposition to Reagan's visit, should be conducted from the standpoint of being actions of solidarity with the people of the world who are suffering under the jackboot of U.S. imperialism and the fascist puppet regimes that they prop up. They should be all importantly demonstrations in support of all the oppressed people of these countries who are fighting for their freedom and independence. And they should be based on dealing a blow against U.S. imperialism around the principle of "All out opposition to the fascist and warmongering activities of Reagan and U.S. imperialism."

Thus the calls for "peaceful" and "courteous" demonstrations to "pressurise" the U.S. President are in fact a reflection of the political stance of conciliation with U.S. imperialism and not genuine opposition. It is an attempt to turn these demonstrations into a non-serious, un-militant afternoon walkabout.

This stance of actual conciliation with U.S. imperialism and its activities around the world, was nowhere more starkly illustrated than in a speech given recently by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Peter Barry -- another so-called "opponent" of Reagan's activities in Central America. In fact he stated that "the Government is firmly opposed to intervention by either of the

two superpowers, the U.S. or the USSR in Central America". But as we look further into the reasons for the "opposition", it can be very quickly seen that this is not from any position of justice or principle.

For example Mr Barry stated: "Attempts by outside powers of whatever stripe to impose solutions on the people of Central America are doomed to failure" and "Any attempt in the long term was likely to be harmful to those outside forces themselves".

Thus it can be seen that this opposition is not based on any democratic principle of non-interference in the affairs of nations and their rights to complete freedom and independence -- far from it. It is based on giving "good advice" to the U.S. that direct intervention is not going to work and will be more harmful to the U.S. His disagreement therefore is based only on a difference of opinion on the best tactics to be used in protecting U.S. "vital interests". Possibly he is thinking of the humiliating defeat of U.S. forces by the Vietnamese peoples war of liberation.

But the essential underlying point he is making is revealed when he says: "Moderates from both right and left must come together and give the people what they want so taking power away from the extremists of both sides". This statement completely exposes Mr Barry's so-called opposition to the U.S.. For what he means by extremists are on the one hand the fascist regimes and on the other the anti-fascist, liberation fighters and communists. Thus in one phrase he equates those who are justly fighting for their freedom with the fascist regimes, backed by U.S. imperialism, which are oppressing the people. He is in effect warning Reagan that he had better watch out or he may have another Vietnam or Iran on his hands -- where the people threw U.S. imperialism out lock, stock and barrel. Thus the violence of an invasion force would merely be a tactical blunder, whilst the violence of the people in defence of their rights is again labelled as "extremism".

Contd. on P. 8 REAGAN

Contd. from P.7-REAGAN

It is not surprising that Mr Barry or all the other capitalist politicians and parties have the same stand on this question - for they are the biggest defenders of the imperialist system here in Ireland, using exactly the same arguments to justify the suppression of the patriotic fighters here, whilst grovelling before the big imperialist powers such as America to "intervene" -- as if the Irish people didn't have enough to contend with, with British imperialism militarily occupying part of our nation, without the U.S. meddling in our affairs.

The fighters for genuine national liberation and against fascism in all the countries in the world, who are fighting for complete freedom from all imperialism and social-imperialism are making a considerable contribution to the struggle for world peace and against the two superpowers' preparations for world war. For it is these struggles which are aimed at the imperialist system itself which are playing an important role in staying the hand of the the superpowers and weakening them. All democratic Irish people should vigorously participate in the forthcoming demonstrations against the visit of Reagan and denounce the activities of this fascist warmonger; should oppose the preparations of the two superpowers U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism for world war; should denounce the imperialist system itself as the cause of war; and should vigorously support all those people throughout the world who are fighting for their freedom and national liberation.

LONG LIVE THE INSPIRATION OF BOBBY SANDS- PATRIOTIC HERO!



On May 5th 1981, Bobby Sands died a heroic death on hunger strike for political status as a prisoner of war. He was to be followed by another nine heroic hunger-strikers - Francis Hughes, Ray McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara, Joe McDonnell, Martin Hurson, Kevin Lynch, Kieran Doherty, Thomas McElwee, and Michael Devine.

The names of these martyrs will be forever inscribed in the hearts of the Irish nation and the working class. For they gave their lives without thought of self-sacrifice in the cause of Irish freedom.

The British imperialists have tried to exonerate themselves from responsibility for the deaths of the heroic H-Block hunger strikers. But their pretence that this was some kind of "suicide" has fooled no one, and these heroes are universally recognised as martyrs murdered by British imperialism throughout the world by all people who are themselves struggling for freedom against imperialism.

What Bobby Sands and his fellow patriots represent is the true spirit of the Irish people.

It has been this spirit which has fired the countless generations that have risen up against foreign domination and exploitation again and again, with ever-renewed vigour and determination, especially since the time of the great Rising of the United Irishmen of 1798.

Bobby Sands and his fellow patriots, by their self-sacrifice, further kindled the fire of patriotic ardour and exposed completely the supine collaborationism of "parliamentary nationalism", of the "Free" State parties and the SDLP, which have never been anything other than tools of foreign domination of British imperialism, along with their fellow class representatives, the Unionists. And they exposed and further isolated the national enemy, British imperialism, as an utterly heartless and ruthless tyrant, whose rhetoric about "democracy" has never been anything more than a cover for murder, exploitation and repression in Ireland as in all the other countries they colonised. The heroic struggle of Bobby Sands and his comrades thus exposed completely who were the real "criminals" and "terrorists" in Ireland today.

On May 5th we remember with inspiration of the life and struggle of Bobby Sands and his fellow patriots. Bobby Sands and his comrades are immortal! The greatest tribute that we can give them is to re-dedicate ourselves to carry through to the end the cause for which they gave their lives -- the freedom of our nation and the freedom of the people.

March against Extradition

Photo' shows the Party banner and contingent on the March against Extradition which was held on Saturday March 28th in Dublin.

This militant demonstration of over 1,000 people were protesting at the latest act of treachery and collaboration by the southern section of the Irish bourgeoisie, with British imperialism for the introduction of extradition of patriots.



Title: Red Patriot, Vol. 7, No. 5

Organisation: Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)

Date: 1984

Downloaded from the Irish Left Archive.

Visit www.leftarchive.ie

The Irish Left Archive is provided as a non-commercial historical resource, open to all, and has reproduced this document as an accessible digital reference. Copyright remains with its original authors. If used on other sites, we would appreciate a link back and reference to the Irish Left Archive, in addition to the original creators. For re-publication, commercial, or other uses, please contact the original owners. If documents provided to the Irish Left Archive have been created for or added to other online archives, please inform us so sources can be credited.