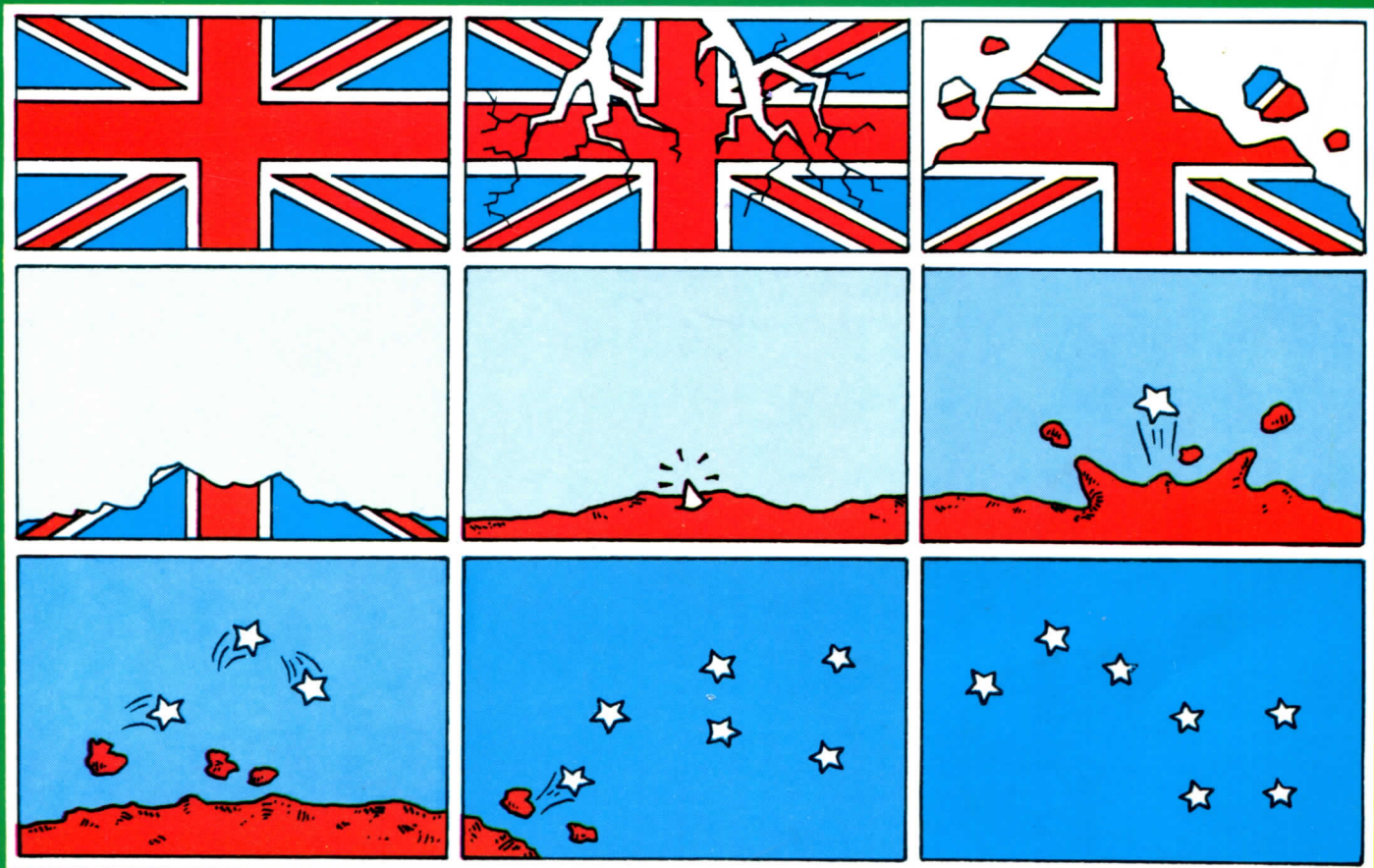


CORMAC STRIKES BACK



RESISTANCE CARTOONS FROM THE
NORTH OF IRELAND



Cover picture: The Starry Plough was the flag of the Irish Citizen Army, led by James Connolly, and still stands as the symbol of a 32 County workers' republic.

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CORMAC STRIKES BACK

An
Information on Ireland
Publication

ISI



FOREWORD

When our gallant lads marched into Port Stanley and impressed the world with their magnificent weaponry and fine kill ratios (1 Brit = approx. 5 Argies) and I'd got over my admiration of their 'Sheer Professionalism', I asked myself: Just what is it that makes Our Boys so accomplished at this sort of thing. Then I read Cormac and realised that they've been practising it in Ireland over many a long year.

Like a lot of Brits, I suspect I tend to drift into thinking that Irish politics are so apparently confusing and so uncomfortably close to home that somehow they defy analysis. The good thing about this book is that, in bringing together a broad selection of Cormac's cartoons over the last decade, it presents a clear, consistent and sane

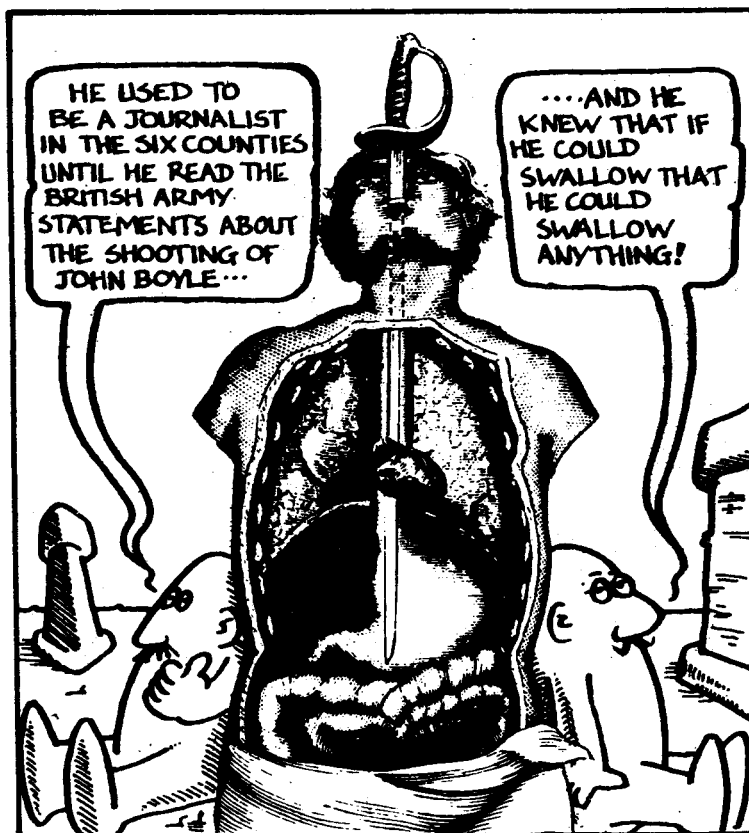
analysis of what's been going on over there from a Republican viewpoint which, oddly enough, is the very viewpoint you never see presented anywhere in the British media.

Having said all that, it's bloody good strip cartooning, with a lot of parts that shock, and a lot of parts that actually make you laugh out loud, God forbid.

So read on and find out just how it is that life resembles a shit sandwich, and just why Our Boys don't go water skiing as much as they'd like.

Steve Bell

Steve Bell





UFOs

6



PAISLEY'S THE NAME AND MURDER'S THE GAME
GOT A HEAD FULLA CRAP AND A BELLY FULLA BOOZE
GONNA KILL A PAGAN, GONNA KILL A TAIG AN'
SING THE TWELVE BAR,
THIRD FORCE,
LAST CHANCE FOR ULSTER,
BLUES!!

ORANGIES

& BAD APPLES

33



THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS

CHRIST & CAESAR

45



THERE ARE FEW SIGHTS
MORE REVOLTING THAN THAT
OF THE SCUM OF BRITISH
JOURNALISM ---

**PERFIDIOUS
ALBION**

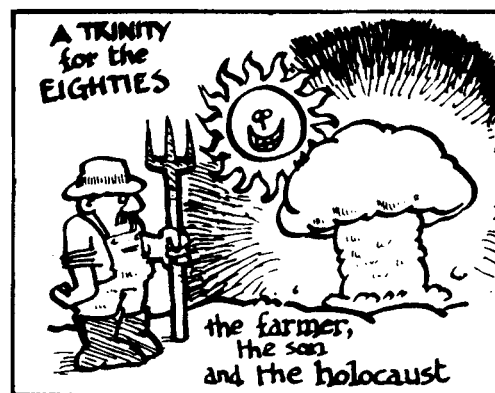
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AND THE ONLY
MEANINGFUL ANSWER
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THE COMPLETE DESTRUCT-
ION OF BRITISH
IMPERIALISM...

**SPEAKING
LOUDLY**

71



A TRINITY
for the
EIGHTIES

the farmer,
the sun
and the holocaust

**BREAD
& ROSES**

82

INTRODUCTION

Sauntering through the ghettos of Belfast goes a dangerous man. Sometimes he makes booby-trap bombs, other times he fires M60 machine-guns. He has shot soldiers and collaborators and has put a true word or two into the mouths of British government ministers and politicians.

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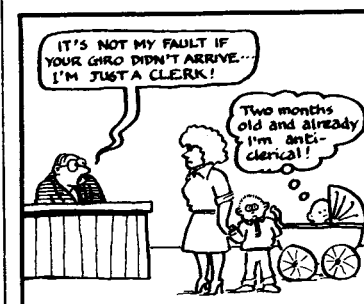
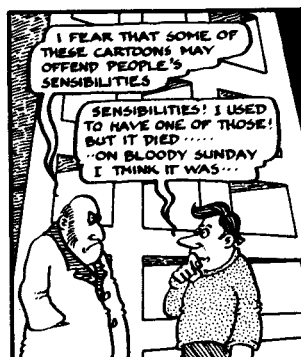
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In his 'conversation pieces' heads roll, politicians are berated and surrealist images walk his stage with lessons on feminism, imperialism and class struggle. How he manages to maintain a constant flow of fresh and refreshing comic strips (and a changing logo) is an indication of his talent and the pool of inspiration he can draw upon from the nationalist ghettos.

In his cartoons he belittles the enemy and boosts the morale of the oppressed, and his acerbic, supportive comments, particularly on IRA operations, have outraged, among others, *The Guardian* and Tim Pat Coogan, editor of the *Irish Press* and author of the book *The IRA*. The rest of us, however, have been entertained.

Of course, some of his more ribald anti-clericalism (in the Irish context) while not necessarily shared by all his fans is certainly understood to be in the vein of the essential ideological struggle to debunk some of the myths and hypocrisies by which authority thrives, and exposes the malign, blatant and partisan interference of the Catholic Church in politics.

A revolution would be a dead thing, soulless, had it not a humorous, reflective side, a smile, and a capacity



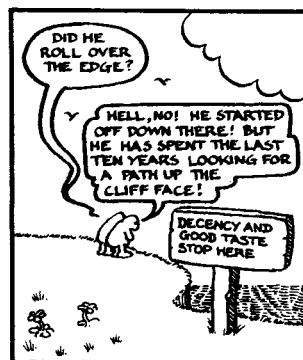
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However, inside Chesterton's observation is an idea struggling to get out.

Tragedy and adversity *have* produced psychological defence mechanisms in the Irish in order to counter the demoralisation of centuries of recurring, some would say glorious, but nevertheless humiliating defeats. But that's all in the past and all the lessons of the past are quintessentially embodied in the risen nationalist people of the North whose main characteristics after 13 years of resistance and armed struggle are determination and tenacity.

Cormac is a product of this defiance, a reflection of the generation which is telling the Brits where to get off.

Danny Morrison,
Editor *An Phoblacht/Republican News*,
October 1982.



An Phoblacht/Republican News is available from 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland.

AND IN THE SKIES STRANGE
CRAFT ARE SIGHTED....
U.F.O. !!
(UNWELCOME FOREIGN OPPRESSOR)

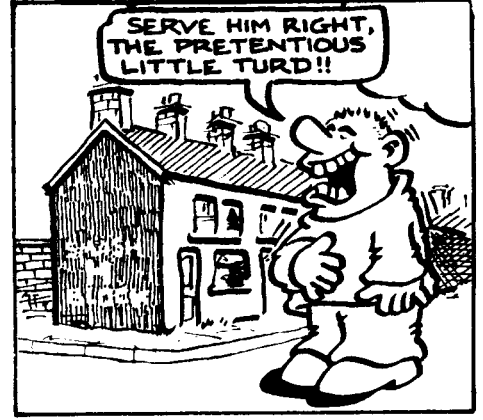
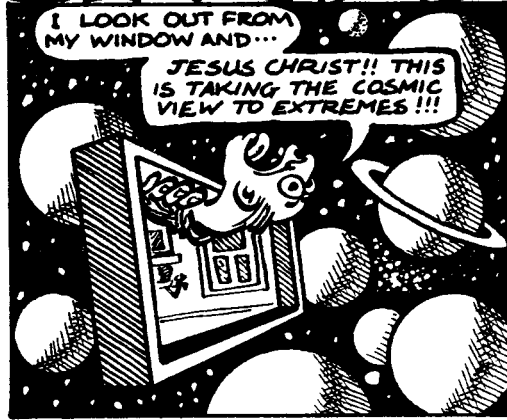
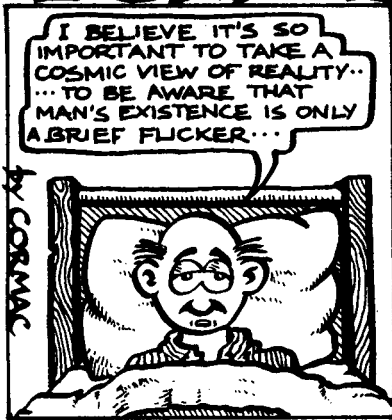


RELIABLE WITNESSES CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN
STRANGELY DRESSED ALIENS WALKING
BACKWARDS ALONG THE ROAD

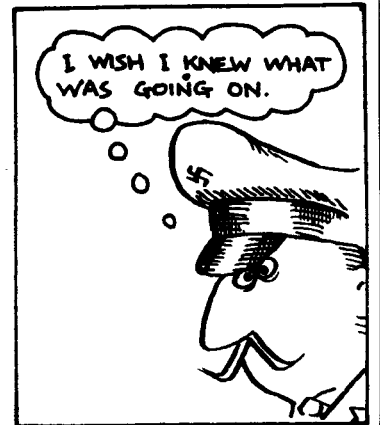
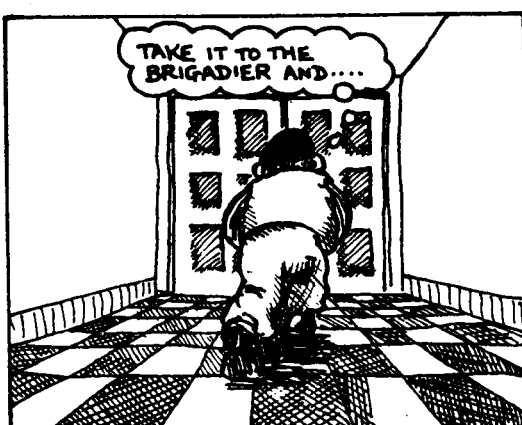
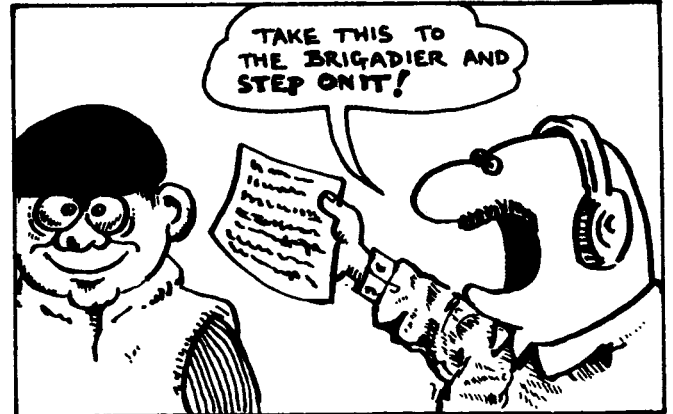
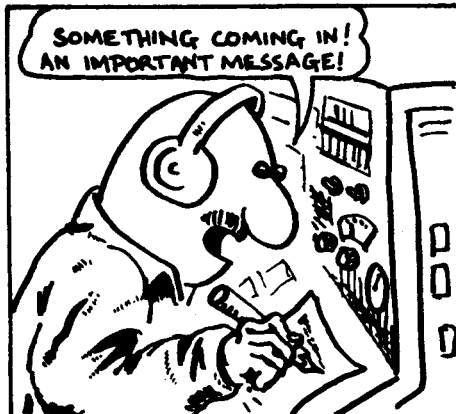
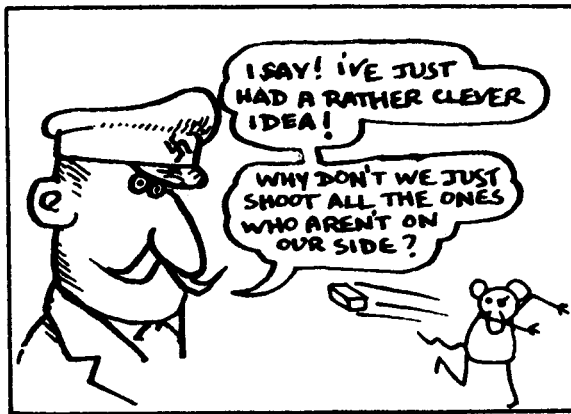
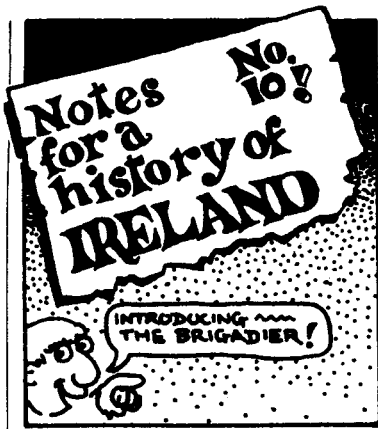


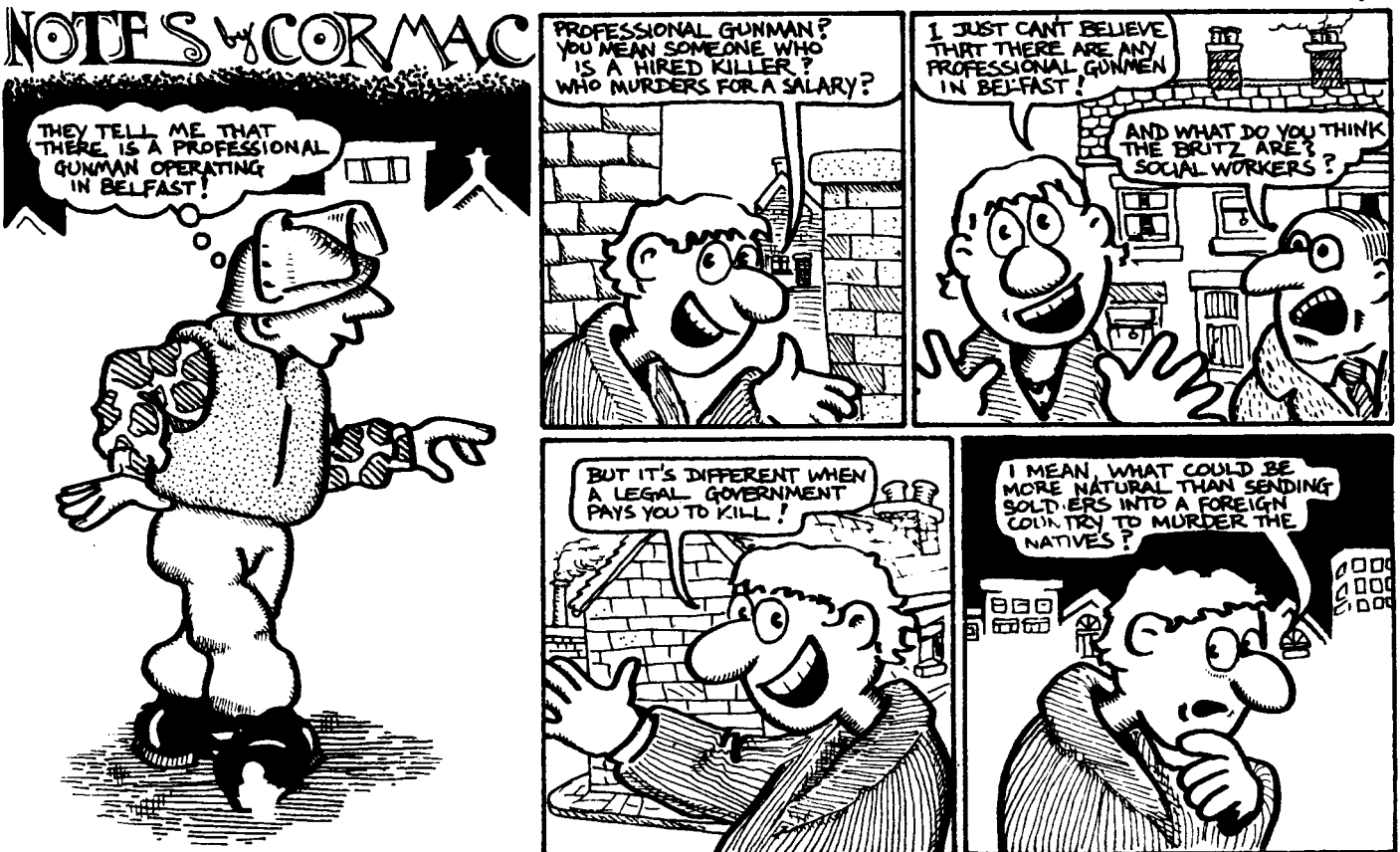
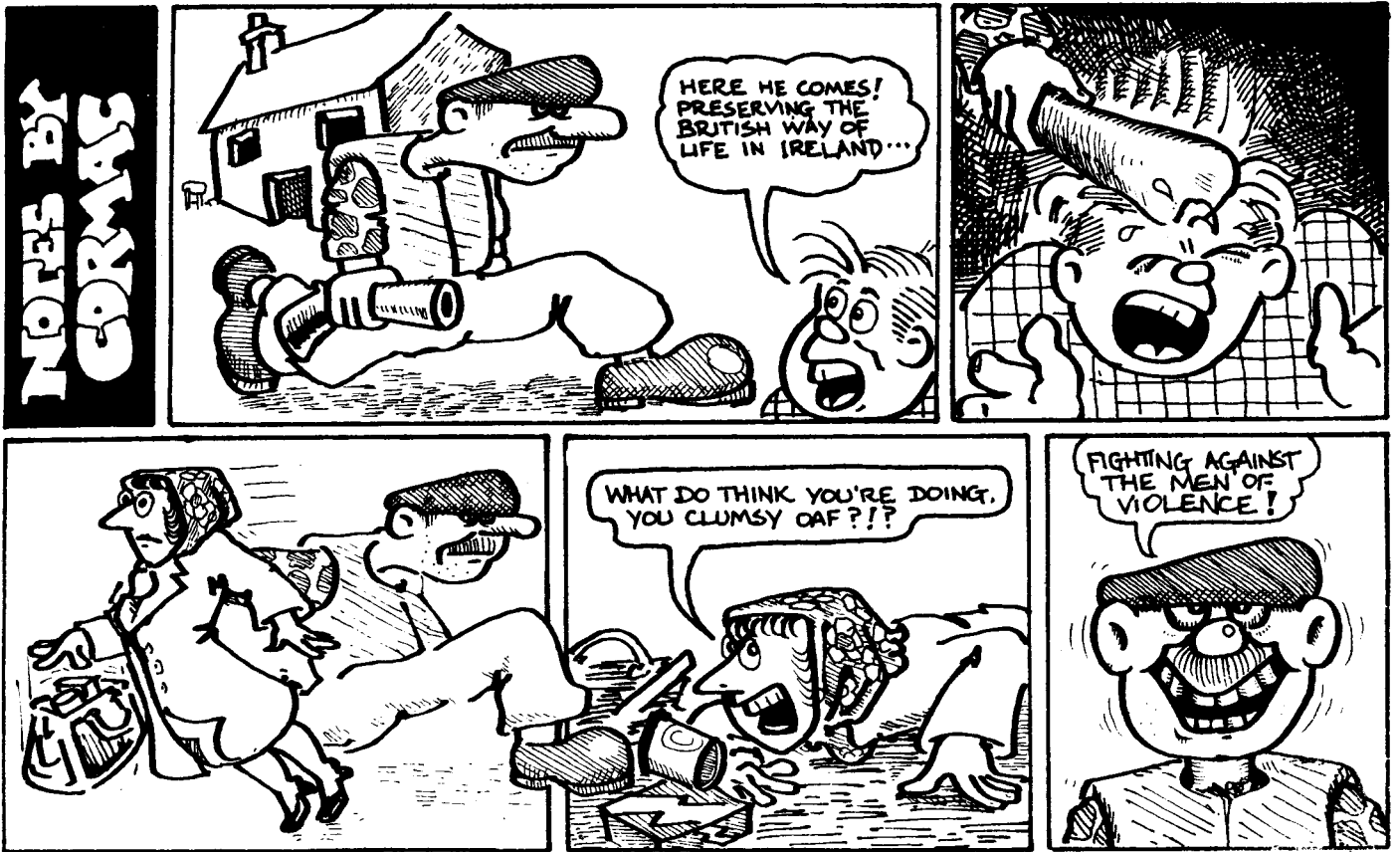
UFOs

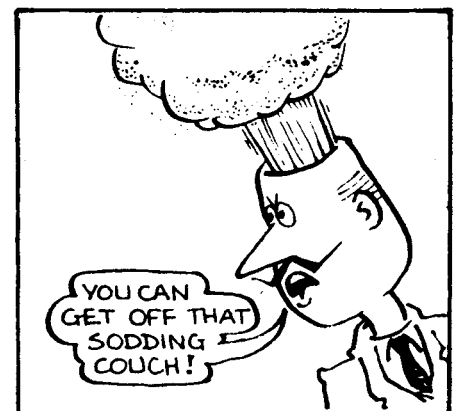
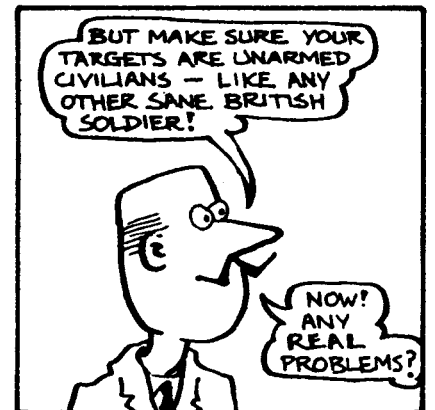
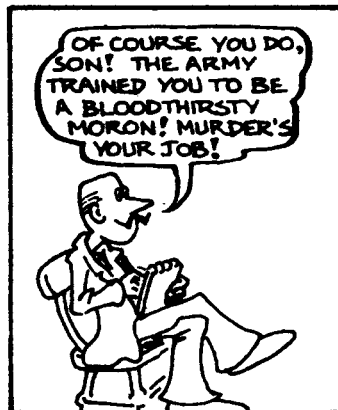
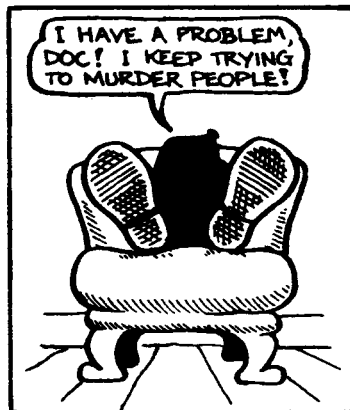
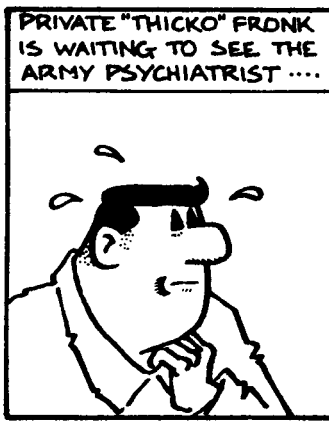
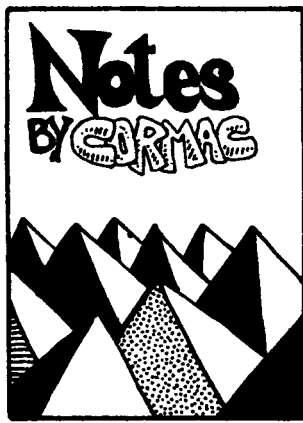
OPPRESSING THE MASSES FOR FUN AND PROFIT



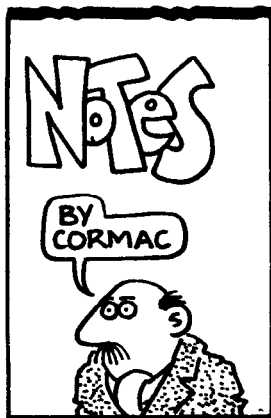
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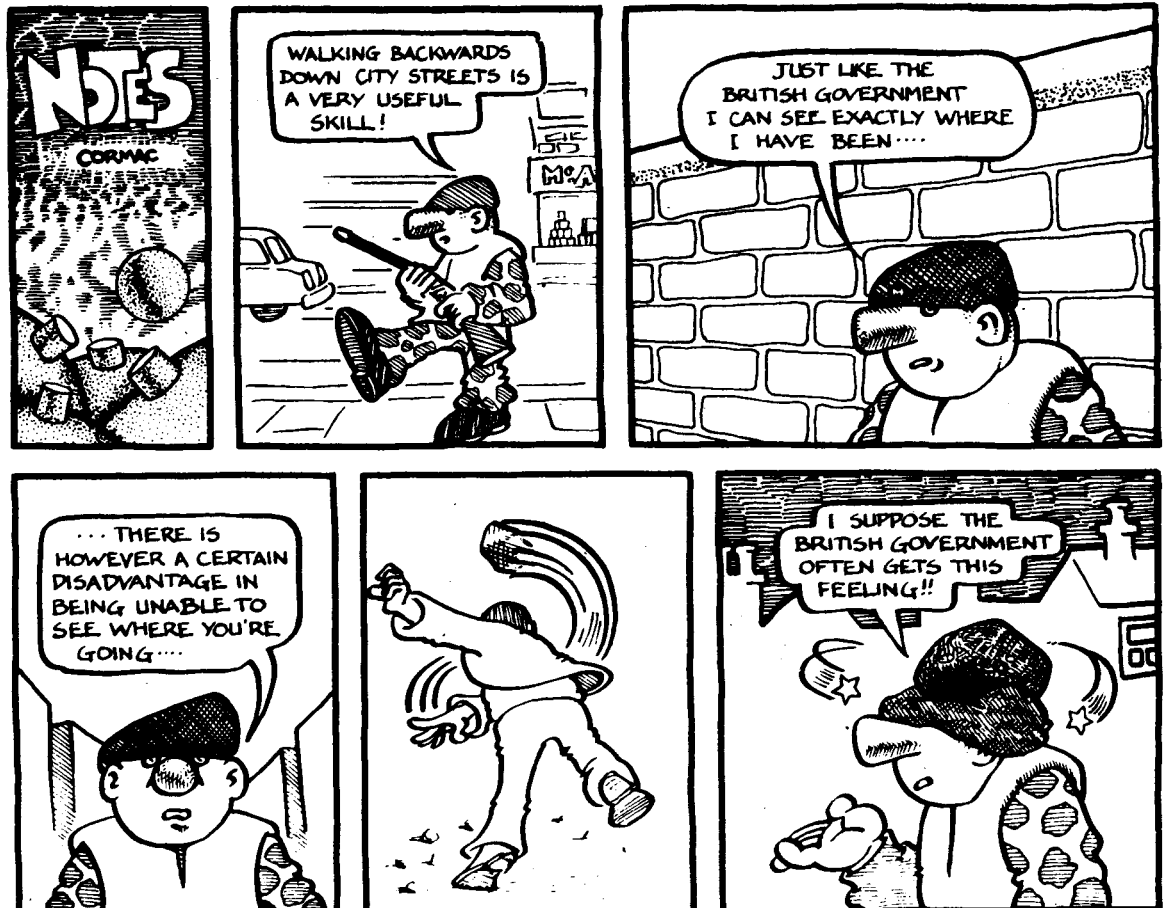
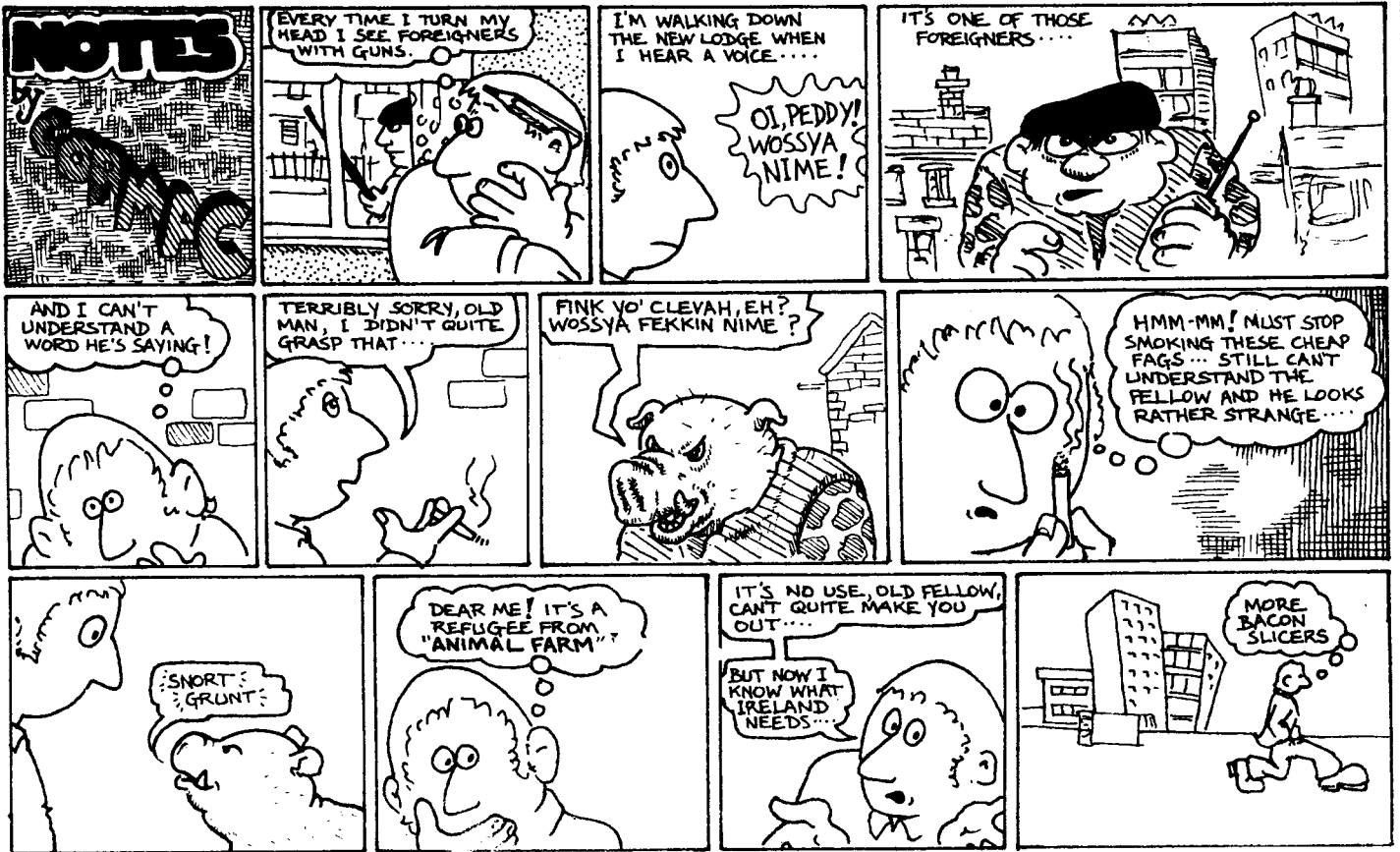


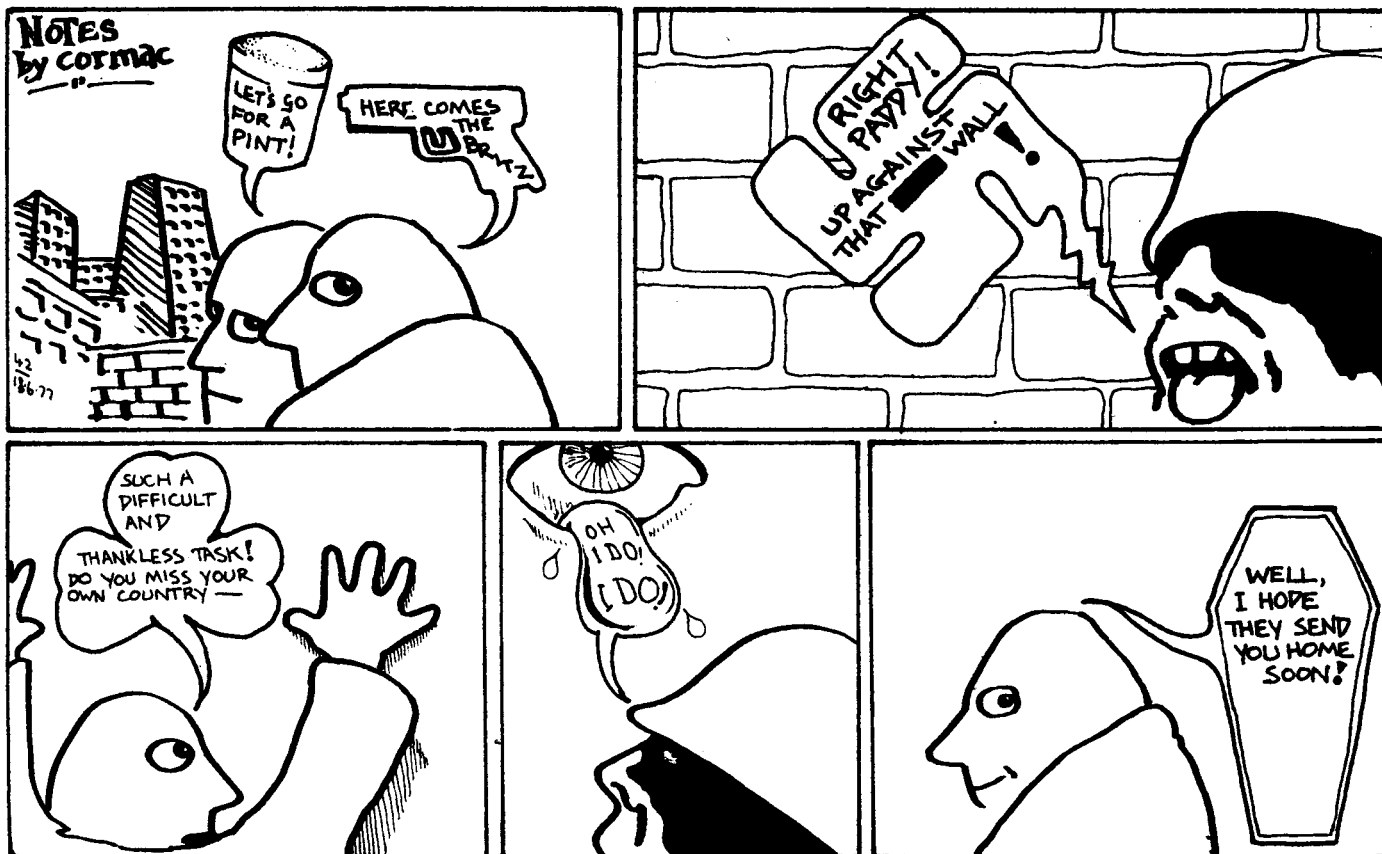


An Phoblacht/Republican News 10 Mar 79



AP/RN 26 May 79

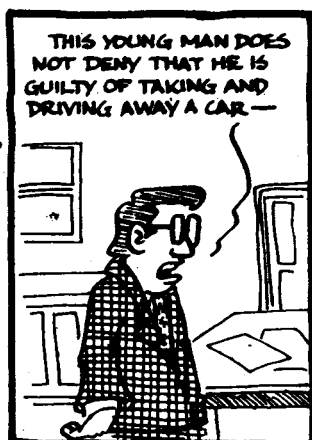




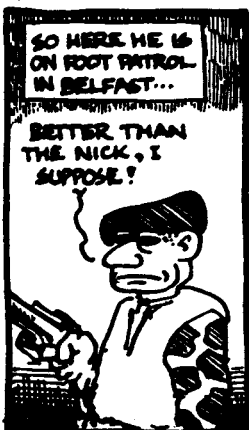
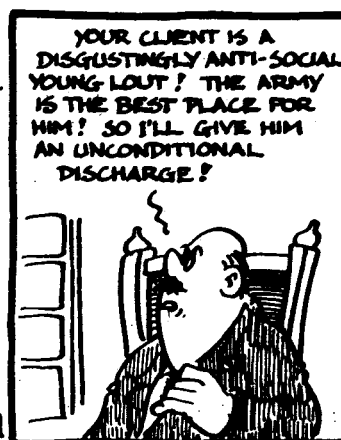
Notes

A MAGISTRATE'S COURT IN ENGLAND — A SOLICITOR IS TRYING TO JUSTIFY HIS CLIENT'S ACTIONS

CORMAC



IN THE PAST! HE HAS BEEN UP ON CHARGES LIKE G.B.H. AND BURGLARY AND — BUT ANYWAY — HE HAS DECIDED TO JOIN THE ARMY!!



ONE NIGHT HE IS MANNING A CHECK-POINT AND A CAR DOES NOT HALT...



Martin Kyles, 19 years old, was shot by soldiers of the Royal Greenjackets while joy-riding in West Belfast on 5 February 1982. He died two days later. Several joy-riders have been shot dead by the British army or RUC.

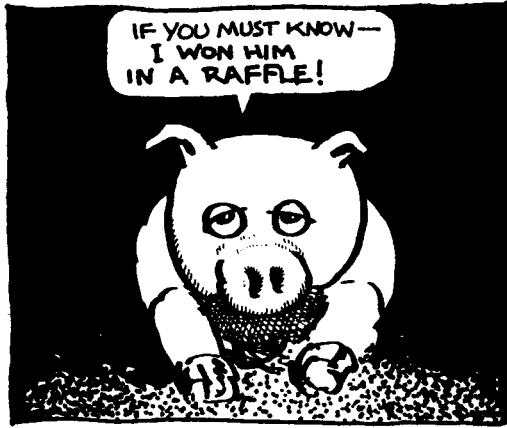
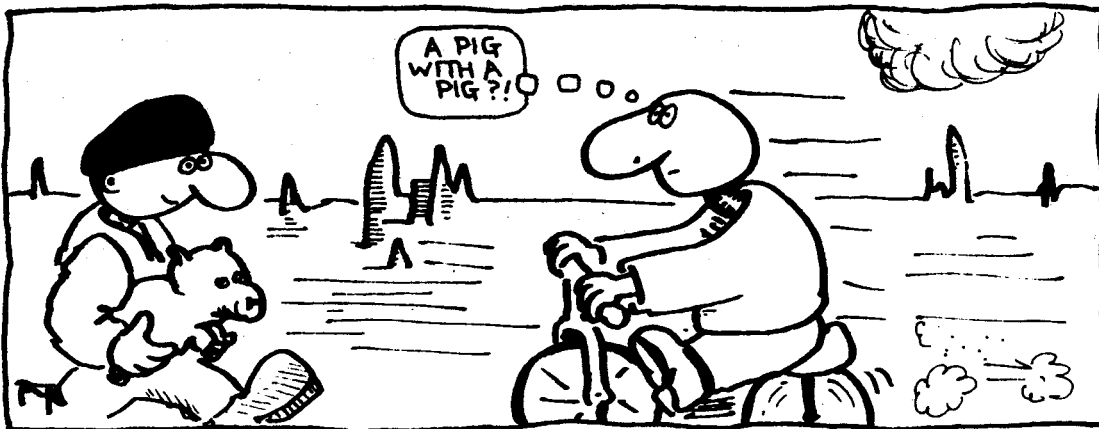
NOTES

Cormac

THERE'S NO
JOKES LIKE
THE OLD
JOKES!

No 35

23-4-77



RN 23 Apr 77

NOTES

by cormac



ON YOUR STREETS
ARE ARMED AND
DANGEROUS MEN

SEDAN



THEY MURDER—
BUT THEY NEVER
GO TO PRISON



FORTUNATELY YOU
CAN RECOGNIZE THEM
BY THEIR UNIFORMS



RN 25 June 77

THE SONGS OF GRIMSHAW

WE'RE WINNING AGAIN!
TUNE THE KERRY RECRUIT

Tune from O'LOCHLAINN 1SB#1

WARNING:-

THE SONG THAT FOLLOWS IS IN VERY BAD TASTE AND WE ONLY PUBLISH IT TO INDICATE THE NASTY THINGS THAT GO ON IN THE MINDS OF SEVERAL CITIZENS IN THIS PLEASANT LITTLE POLICE STATE

DEDICATED TO MS. BETTY WILLIAMS

DOLE

I STOOD IN THE DOLE QUEUE IN DEAR OLD ENGLAND MY POCKETS ALL EMPTY MY CARDS IN MY HAND

I SURRENDER! I'LL JOIN THE ARMY!

ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE

THOUGHT OF THE ARMY THE DOLE CLERK I ASKED NOT THINKING TO END UP IN BLOODY BELFAST

CHORUS

WENT TO THE OFFICE THE SERGEANT TO SEE THERE'S A PLACE IN THE ARMY FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME

YOU FAILED THE INTELLIGENCE TEST; SO WE'LL HAVE YOU

THE NEWSPAPERS TELL YOU WE'RE WINNING AGAIN AND OUR CORPSES FLY OUT ON THE ALDERGROVE PLANE

DAILY MAIL IRA ON VERGE OF DEFEAT

IF THIS IS WINNING I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE WHEN WE START LOSING!

THERE'D BE SPORT, THERE'D BE TRAVEL, IF ONLY TO JOIN, THERE'S NOT MUCH BLOODY SPORT ABOUT IN (THE) ARDOYNE

OF COURSE, THERE'S SPORT! DUCKING BULLETS IN BUTLER STREET CAN BE JOLLY GOOD FUN.

I DON'T MIND SHOOTING DOWN PADDIES - BUT SOMETIMES THE BASTARDS SHOOT BACK

THE FIRST THING THEY GAVE ME THEY CALLED IT A GUN SAID, "SHOOTING DOWN PADDIES IS BLOODY GOOD FUN!"

THEY HAD BIG CARDBOARD TARGETS HUNG UP ON THE WALLS BUT THERE'S NO CARDBOARD PADDIES ABOUT ON THE WALLS

YO-HO! SHOOT ME! SHOOT ME!

CORMAC

STRIKES BACK

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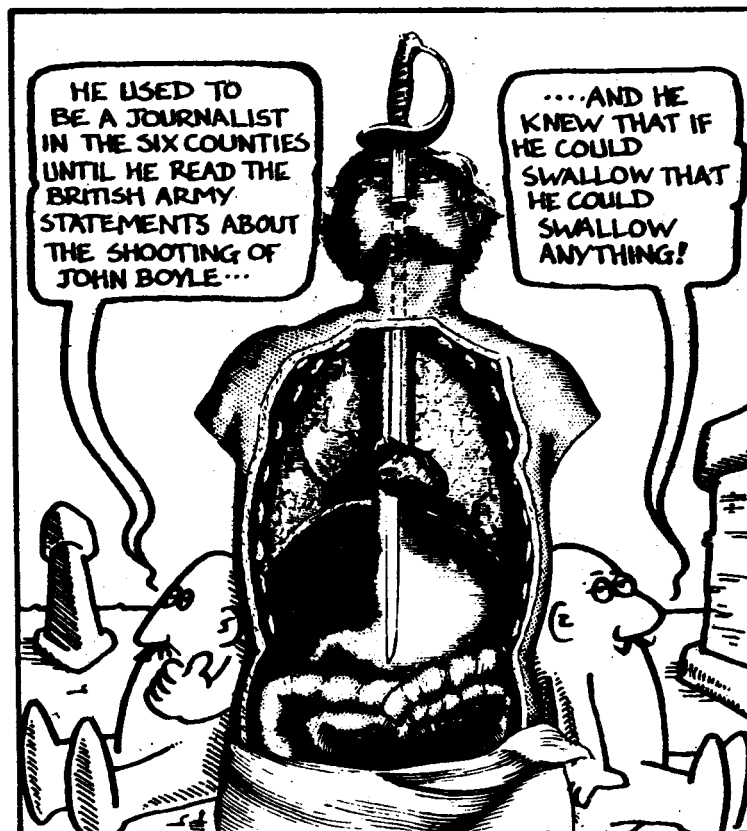
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UFOs

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ORANGIES

& BAD APPLES

33



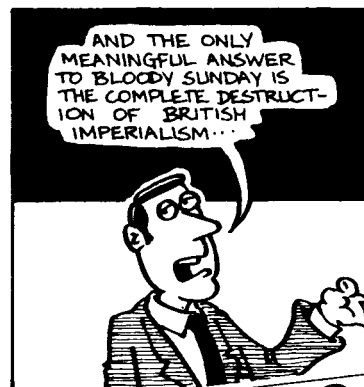
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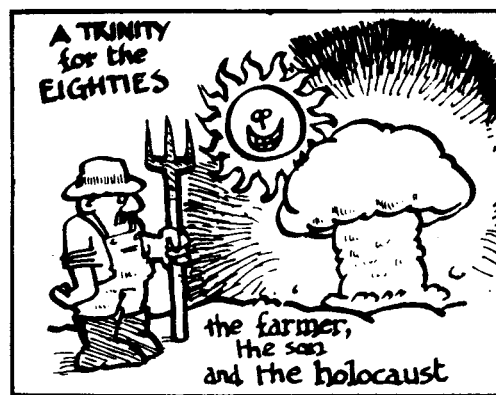
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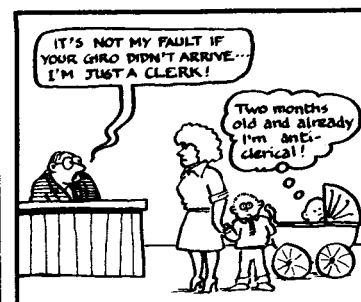
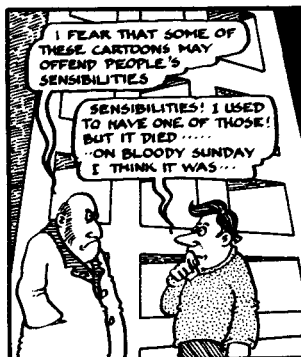
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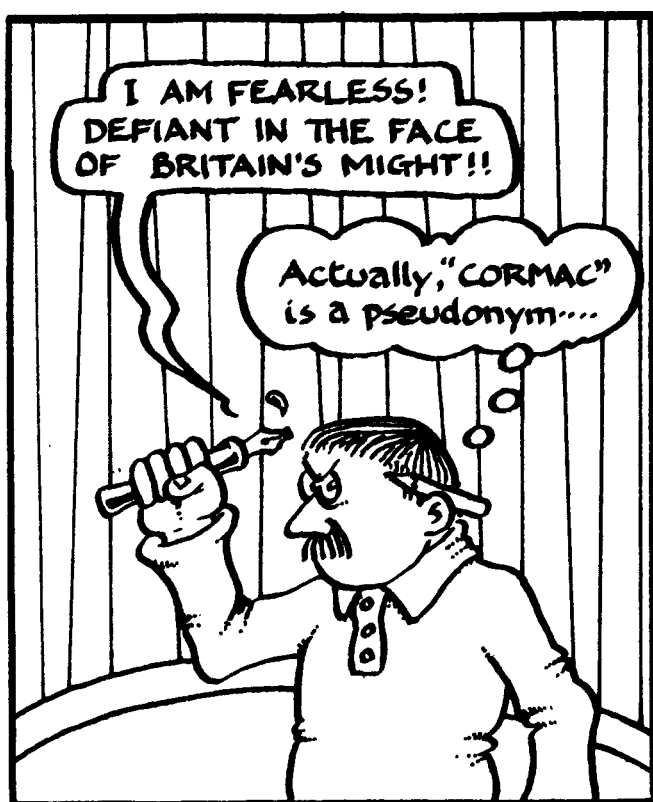
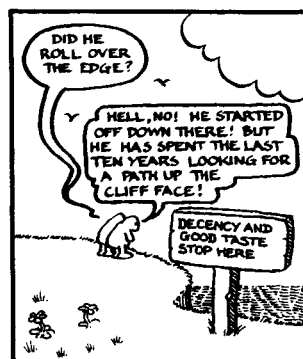
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Editor *An Phoblacht/Republican News*,
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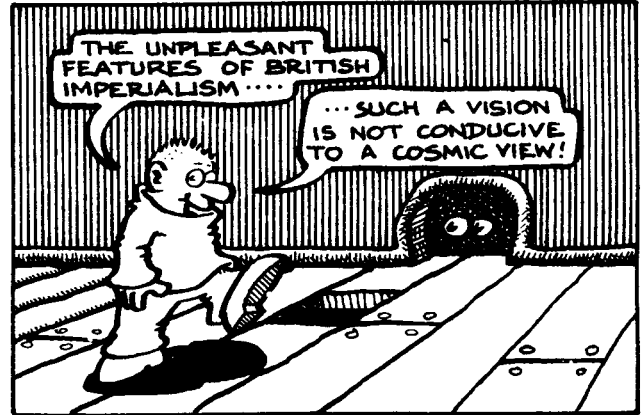
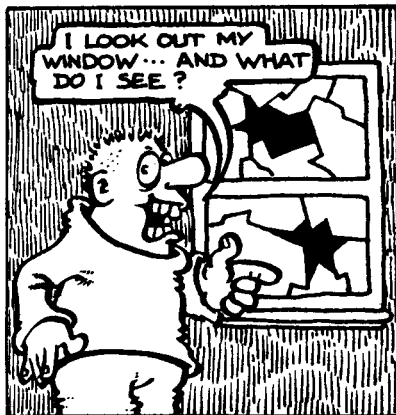
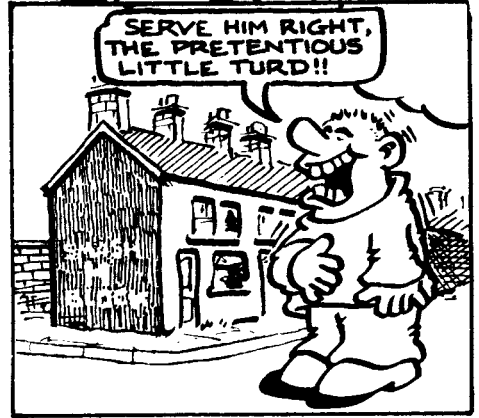
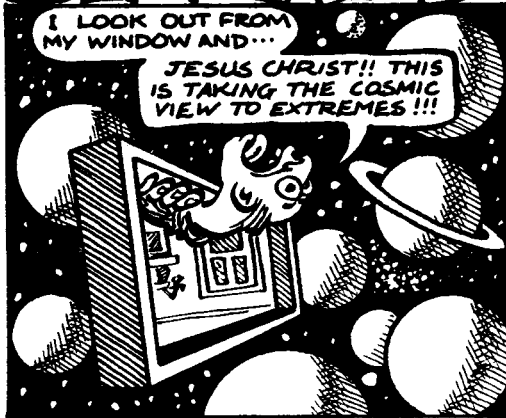


RELIABLE WITNESSES CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN
STRANGELY DRESSED ALIENS WALKING
BACKWARDS ALONG THE ROAD

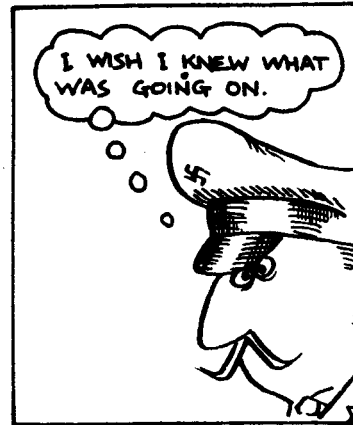
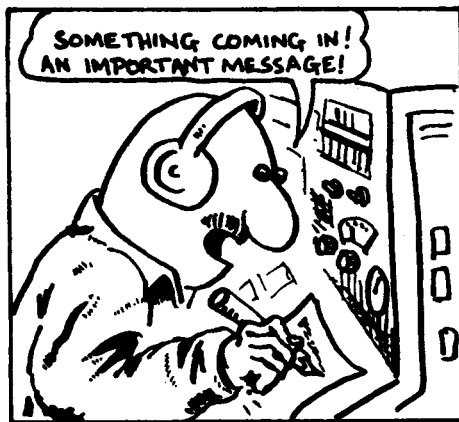
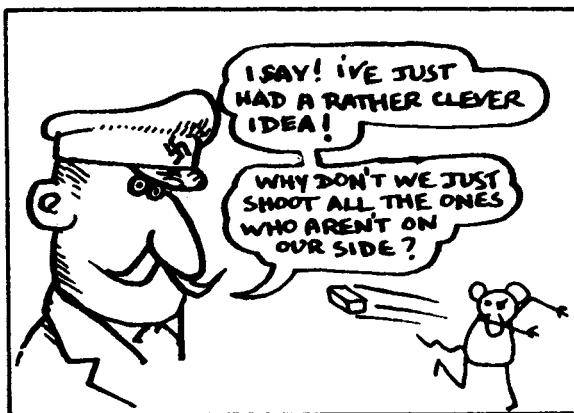
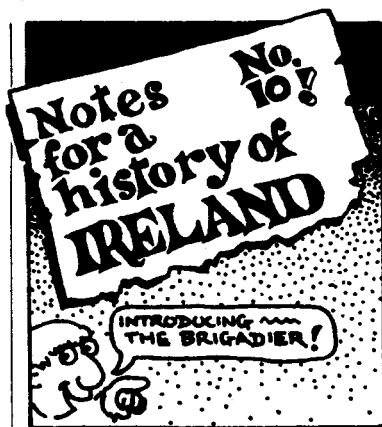


UFOs

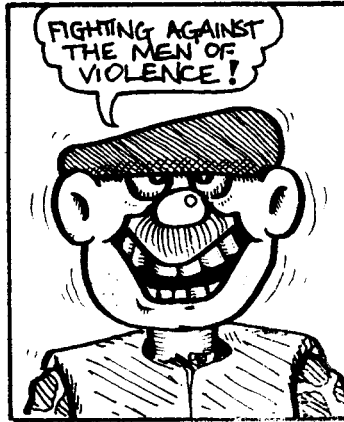
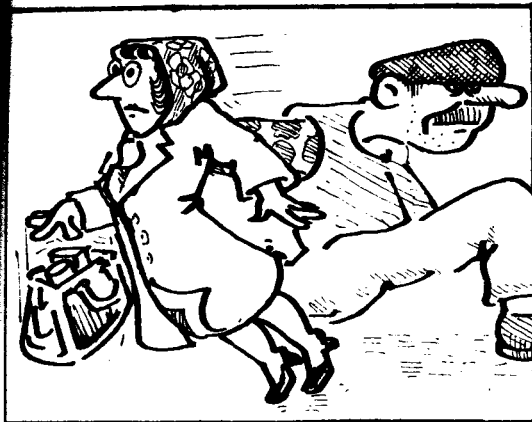
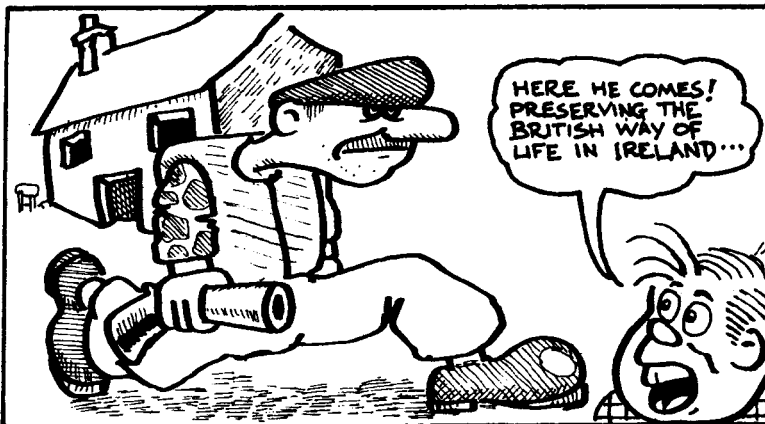
OPPRESSING THE MASSES FOR FUN AND PROFIT



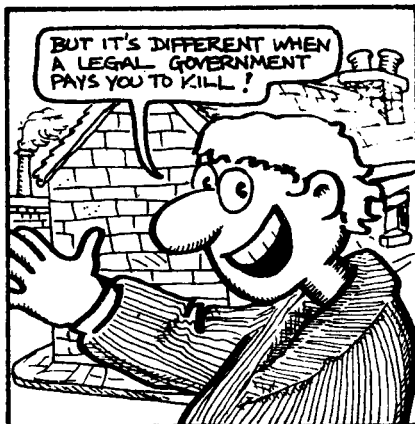
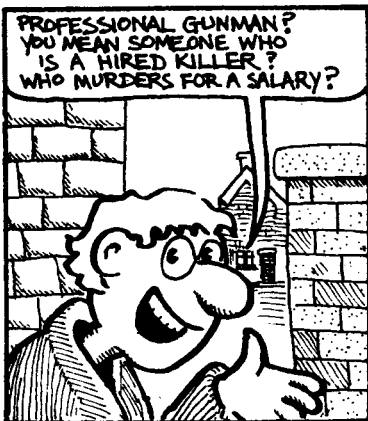
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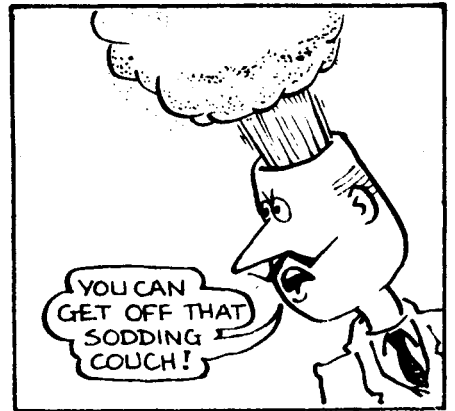
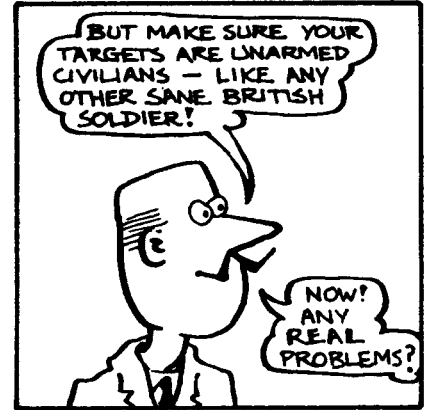
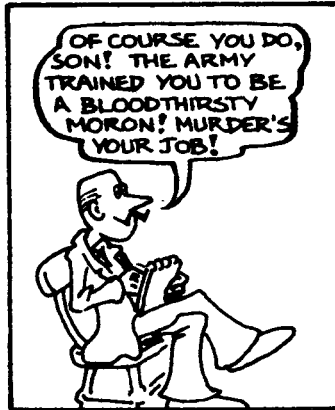
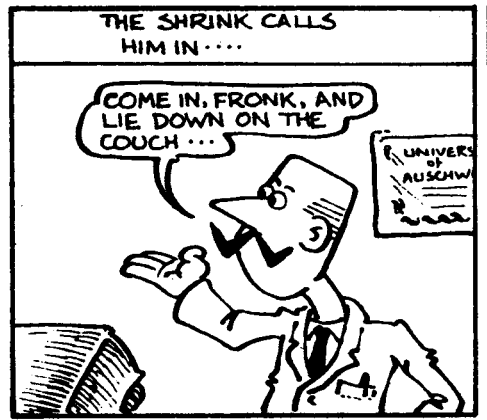
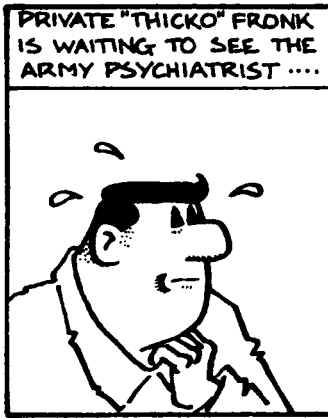
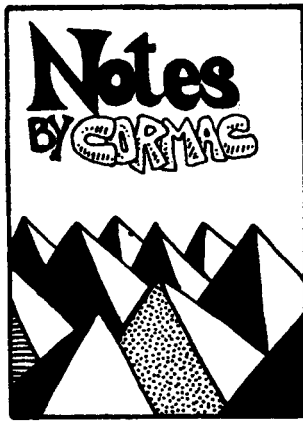


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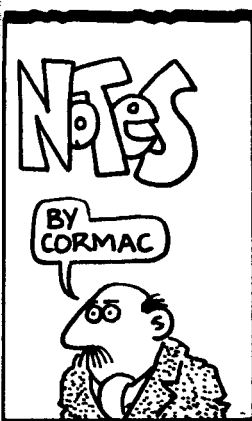


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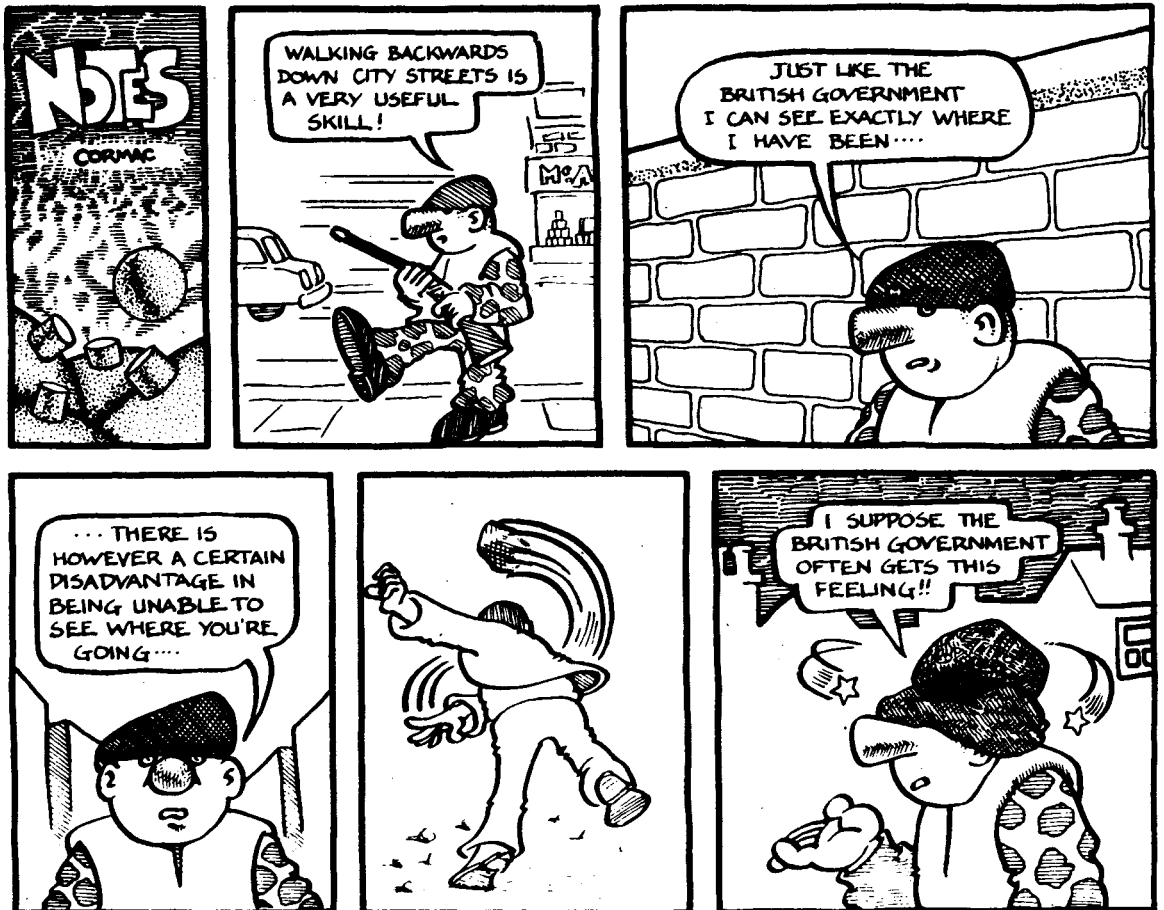
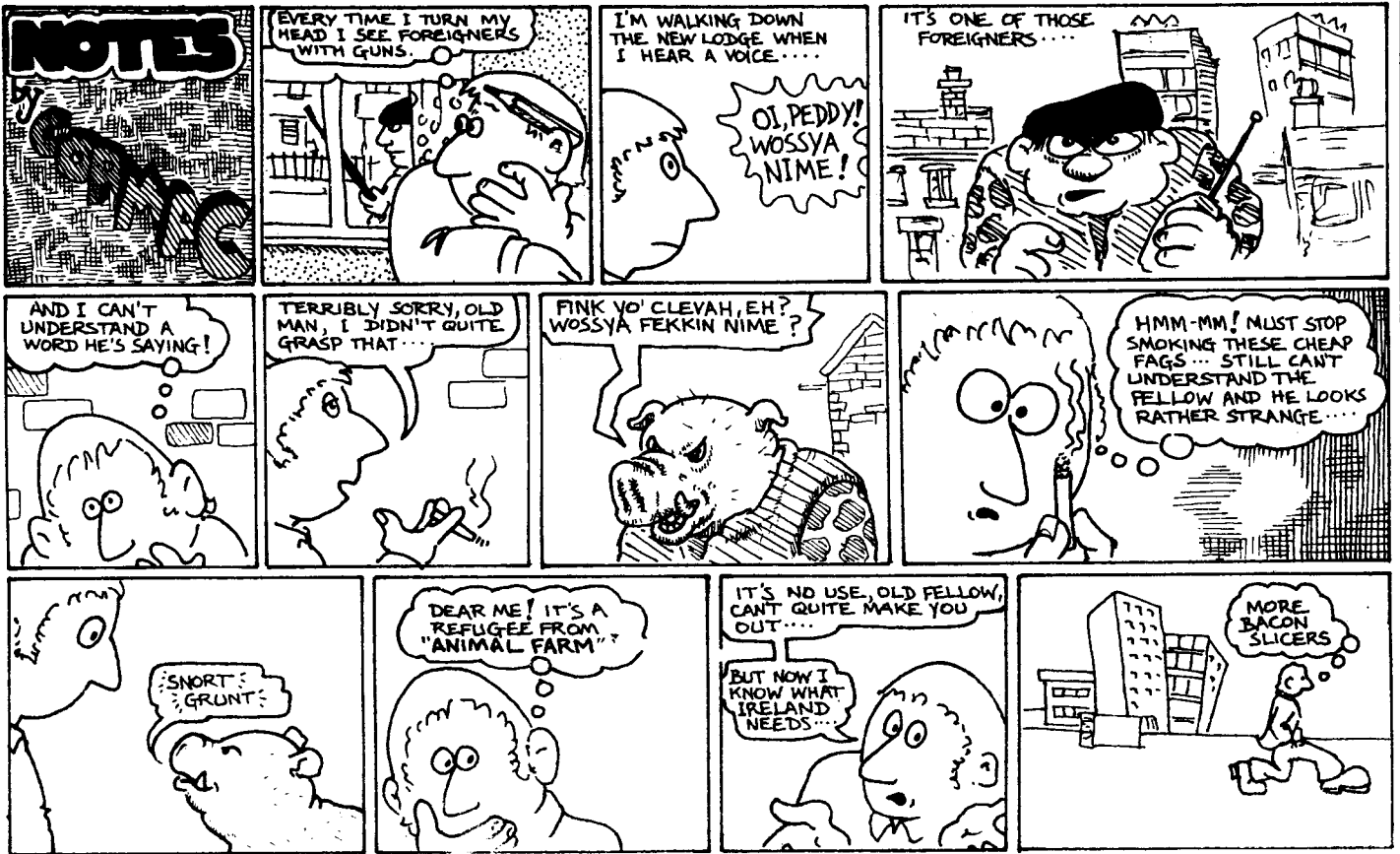




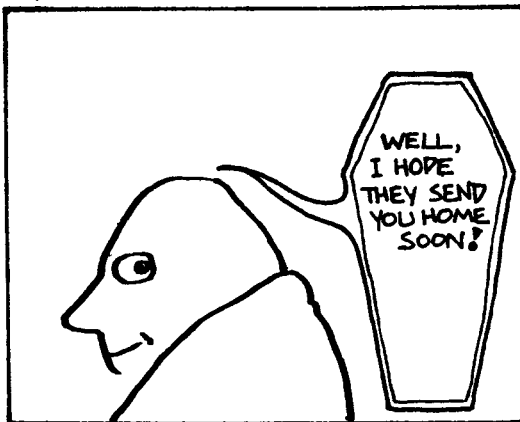
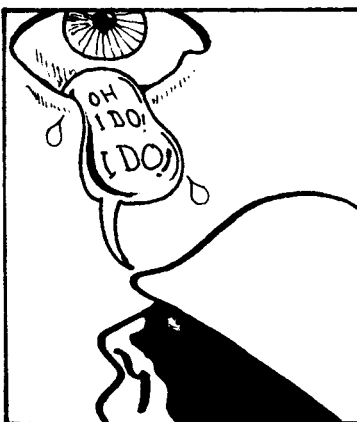
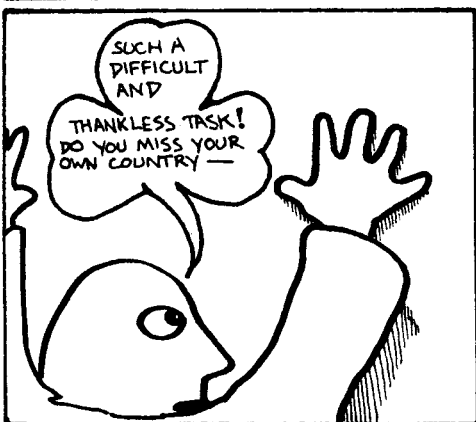
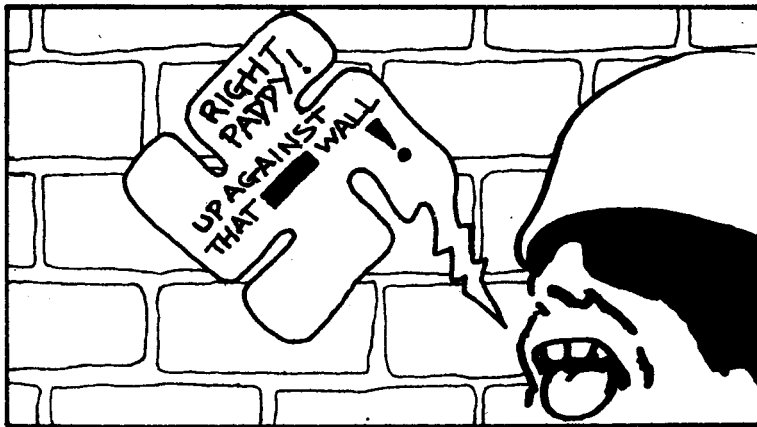
An Phoblacht/Republican News 10 Mar 79



AP/RN 26 May 79



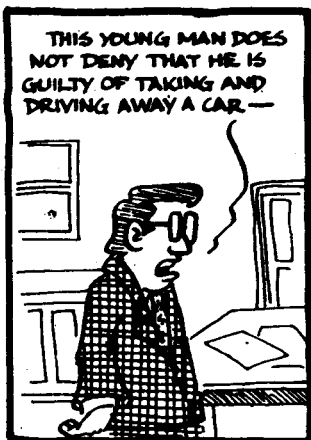
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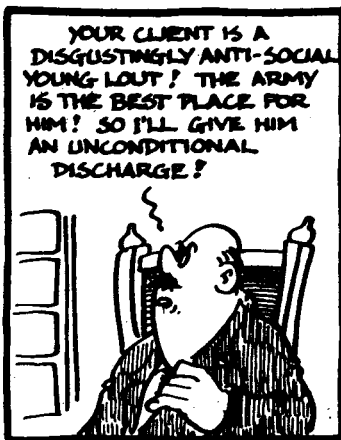
AP/RN 11 Feb 82

NOTES

A MAGISTRATE'S COURT IN ENGLAND - A SOLICITOR IS TRYING TO JUSTIFY HIS CLIENT'S ACTIONS



IN THE PAST! HE HAS BEEN UP ON CHARGES LIKE G.B.H. AND BURGLARY AND - BUT ANYWAY - HE HAS DECIDED TO JOIN THE ARMY!!



CORMAC



Martin Kyles, 19 years old, was shot by soldiers of the Royal Greenjackets while joy-riding in West Belfast on 5 February 1982. He died two days later. Several joy-riders have been shot dead by the British army or RUC.

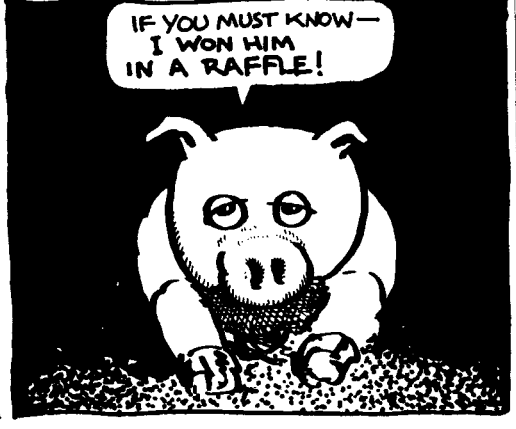
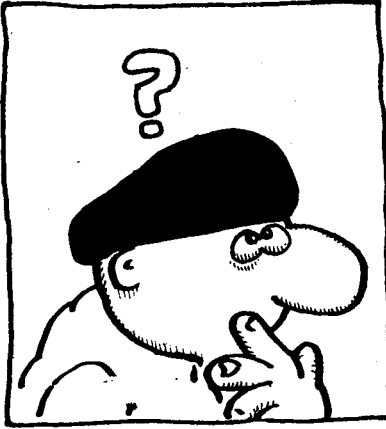
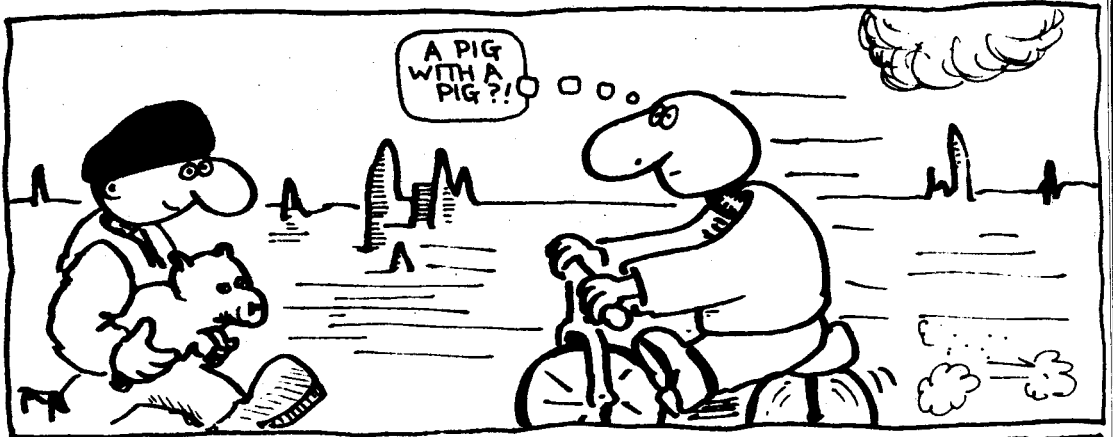
NOTES

Cormac

THERE'S NO
JOKES LIKE
THE OLD
JOKES!

No 35

23/4/77



RN 23 Apr 77

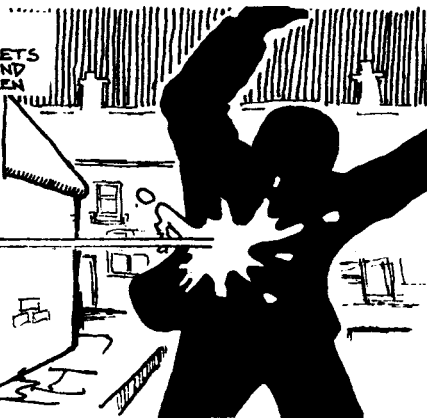
NOTES

by cormac



ON YOUR STREETS
ARE ARMED AND
DANGEROUS MEN

RED SO



W3 25-6-77



THEY MURDER—
BUT THEY NEVER
GO TO PRISON



FORTUNATELY YOU
CAN RECOGNIZE THEM
BY THEIR UNIFORMS

RN 25 June 77

THE SONGS OF GRIMSHAW

WE'RE WINNING AGAIN!
TUNE: THE KERRY RECRUIT

tune from O'LOUGHLIN 1SB#1

WARNING:-

THE SONG THAT FOLLOWS IS IN VERY BAD TASTE AND WE ONLY PUBLISH IT TO INDICATE THE NASTY THINGS THAT GO ON IN THE MINDS OF SEVERAL CITIZENS IN THIS PLEASANT LITTLE POLICE STATE

DEDICATED TO MS. BETTY WILLIAMS

DOLE

I STOOD IN THE DOLE QUEUE IN DEAR OLD ENGLAND MY POCKETS ALL EMPTY MY CARDS IN MY HAND

THOUGHT OF THE ARMY THE DOLE CLERK I ASKED NOT THINKING TO END UP IN BLOODY BELFAST

I SURRENDER! I'LL JOIN THE ARMY!

ONE BORN EVERY MINUTE

WENT TO THE OFFICE THE SERGEANT TO SEE THERE'S A PLACE IN THE ARMY FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME

YOU FAILED THE INTELLIGENCE TEST; SO WE'LL HAVE YOU

CHORUS AFTER EVERY LINE

THE NEWSPAPERS TELL YOU WE'RE WINNING AGAIN AND OUR CORPSES FLY OUT ON THE ALDERGROVE PLANE

DAILY MAIL
IRA ON VERGE OF DEFEAT

IF THIS IS WINNING I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE WHEN WE START LOSING!

THERE'D BE SPORT, THERE'D BE TRAVEL, IF ONLY TO JOIN, THERE'S NOT MUCH BLOODY SPORT ABOUT IN (THE) ARDOYNE

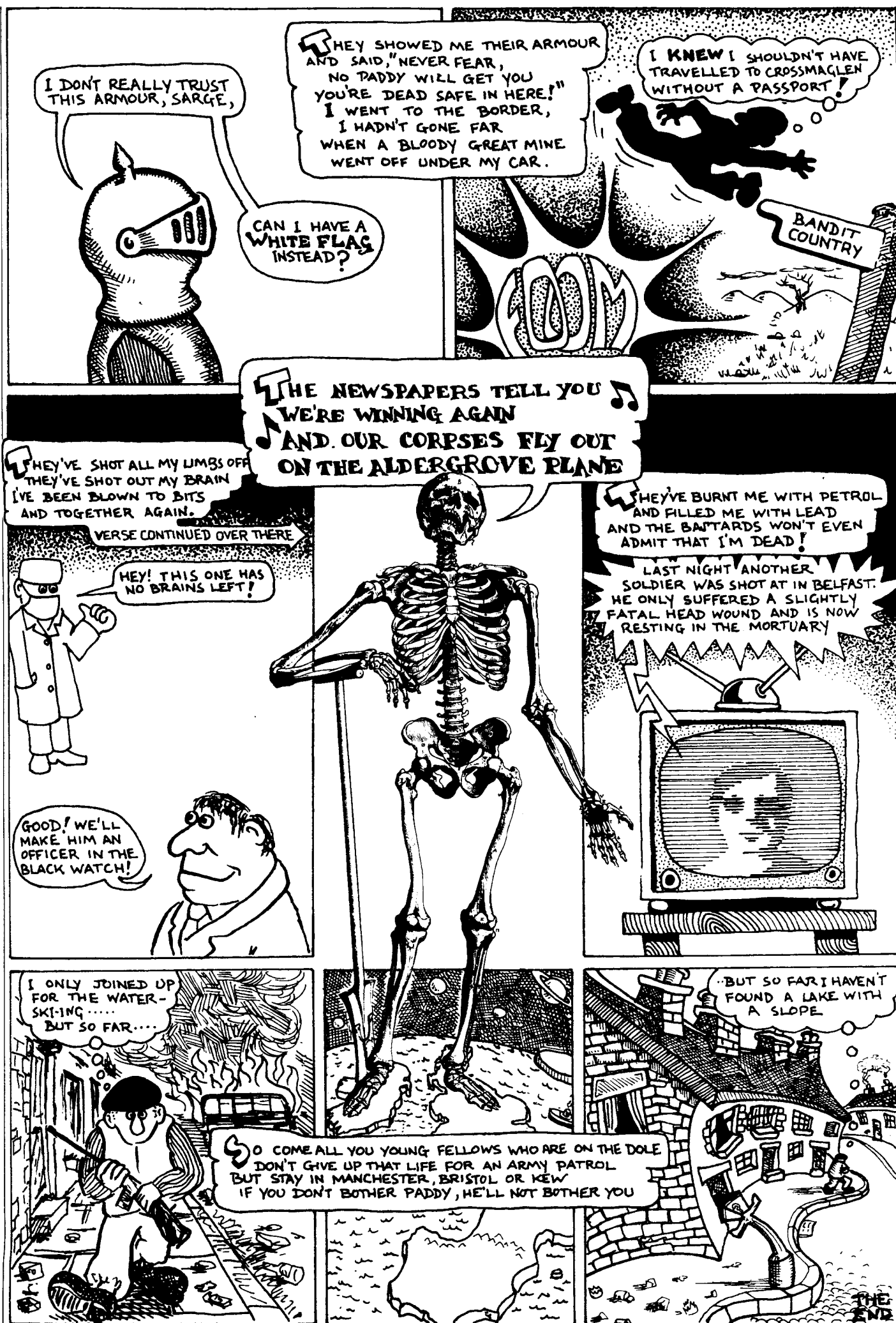
OF COURSE, THERE'S SPORT! DUCKING BULLETS IN BUTLER STREET CAN BE JOLLY GOOD FUN.

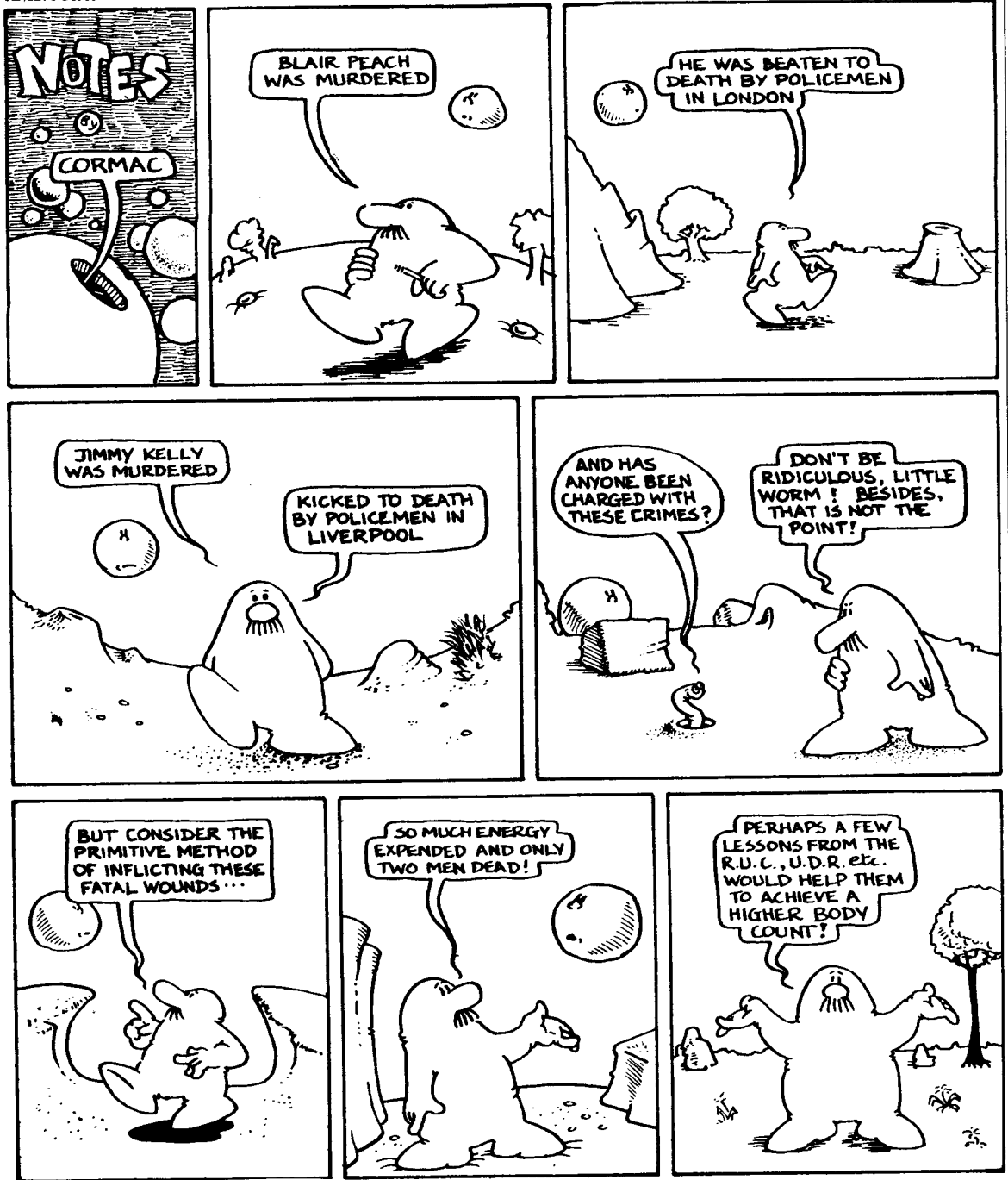
I DON'T MIND SHOOTING DOWN PADDIES - BUT SOMETIMES THE BASTARDS SHOOT BACK

THE FIRST THING THEY GAVE ME THEY CALLED IT A GUN SAID, "SHOOTING DOWN PADDIES IS BLOODY GOOD FUN!"

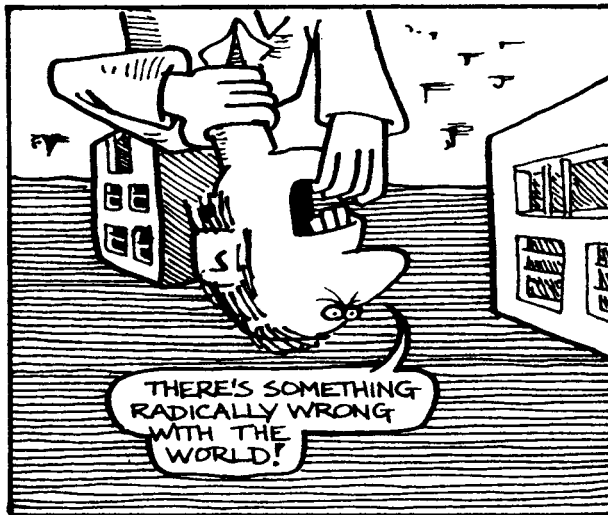
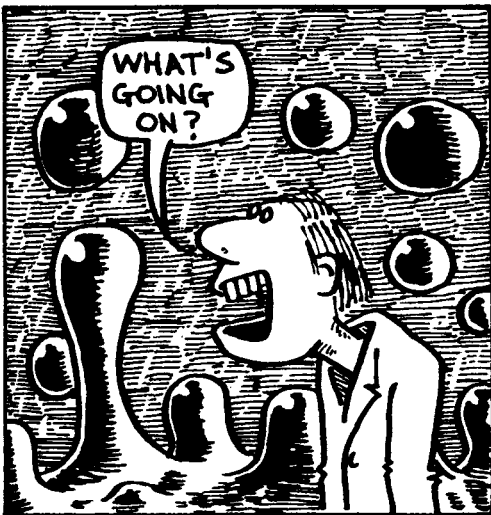
THEY HAD BIG CARDBOARD TARGETS HUNG UP ON THE WALLS BUT THERE'S NO CARDBOARD PADDIES ABOUT ON THE FALLS

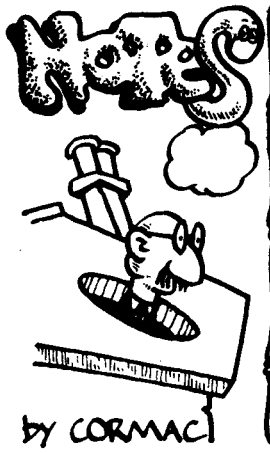
YO-HO! SHOOT ME! SHOOT ME!



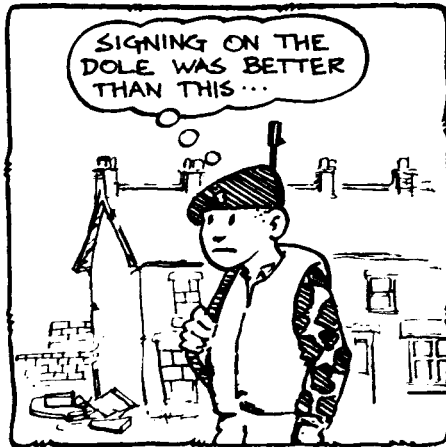
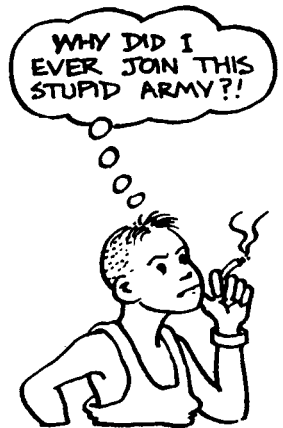


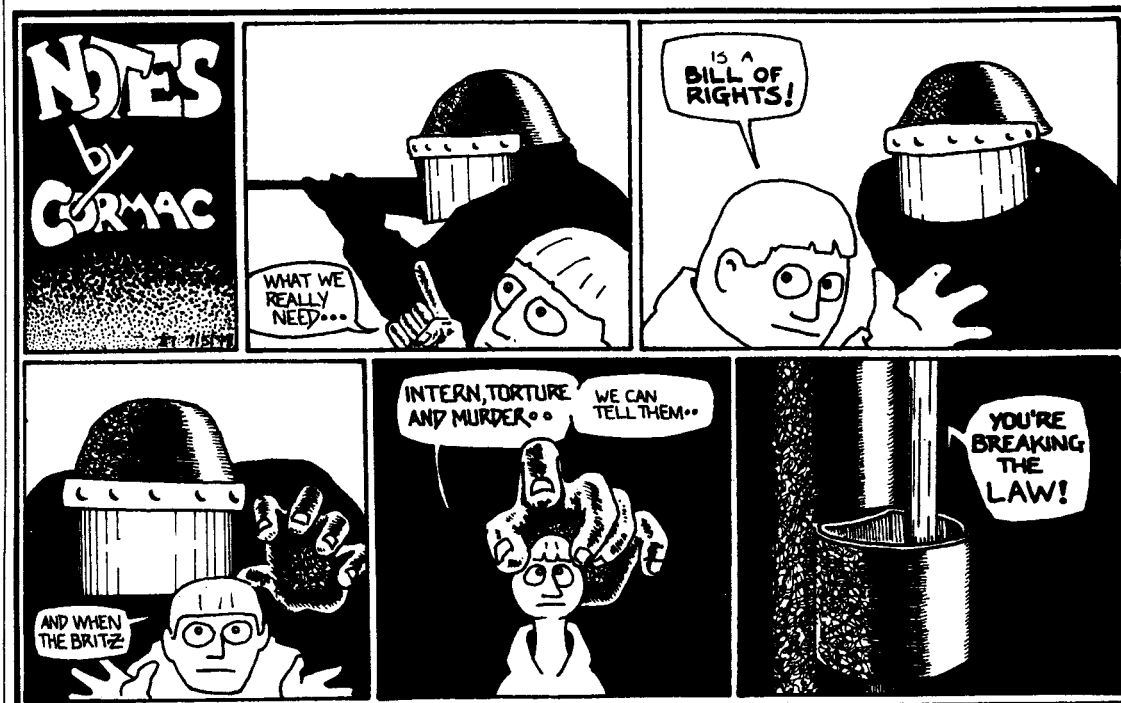
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by CORMAC





BRITISH JUSTICE COMIX



AN IMPERIALIST PRODUCT



Diplock courts are courts without juries in which statements obtained by force are allowed as evidence. From 1976 torture was systematically used to obtain confessions in specially-created interrogation centres such as Castle-reagh.

Chief Constable Newman and Northern Ireland Secretary Roy Mason for years insisted that all injuries sustained by prisoners during interrogation were 'self-inflicted'.

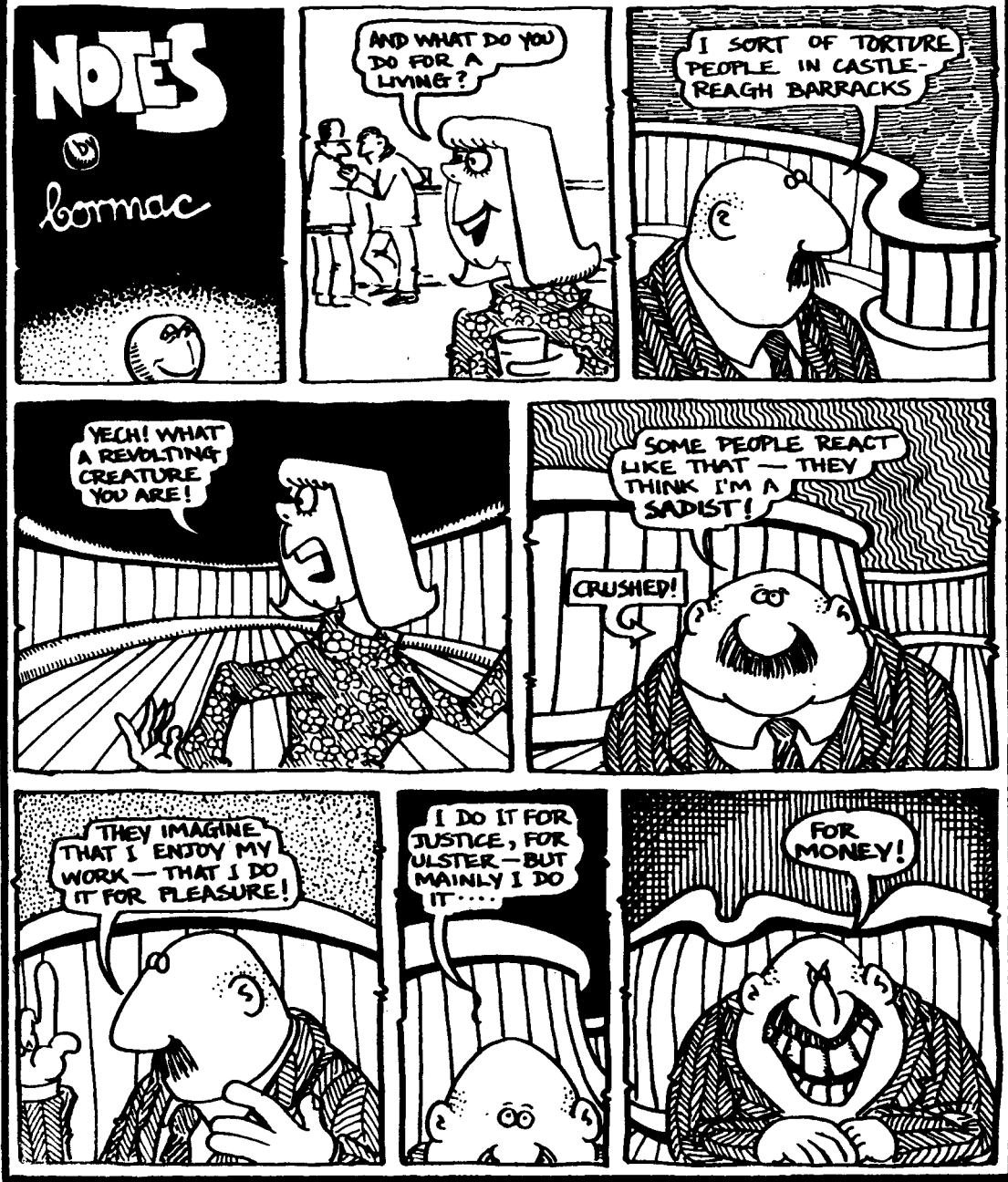
AP/RN 22 Dec 79



In June 1978 an Amnesty International report stated that 'Maltreatment has taken place with sufficient frequency to warrant a public inquiry to investigate it.' Mason refused a public inquiry but set up a private one under Judge Harry Bennett.

The Bennett report was published in March 1979 and confirmed that ill-treatment had taken place.

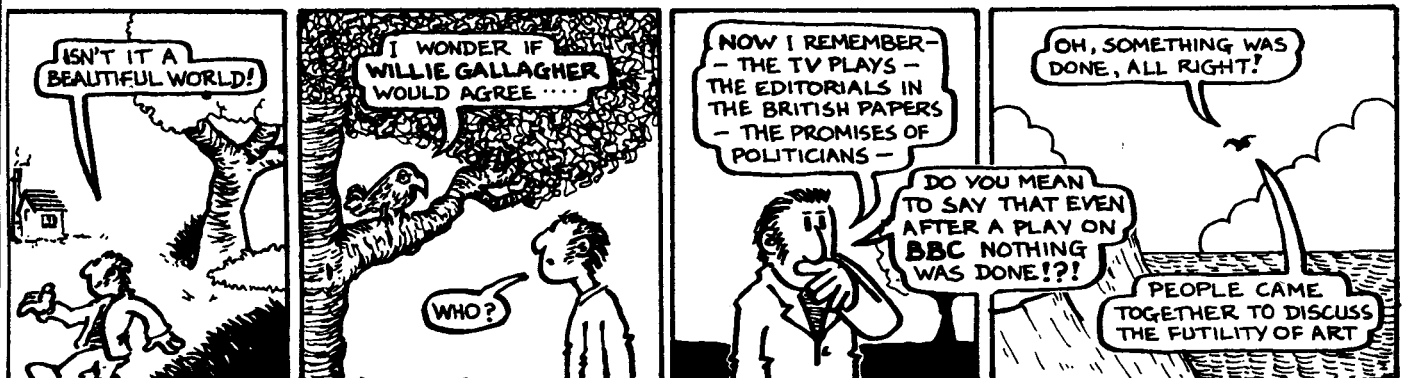




Willie Gallagher went on hunger strike in protest against his conviction in a non-jury court. In 1978 the BBC showed a censored version of a play about his trial.

At a press conference held in London to protest against the censorship his father was prevented from raising his son's case because the organisers were only concerned with artistic freedom. Despite the widespread publicity given to his case, nothing was done.

SC



NOTES

by

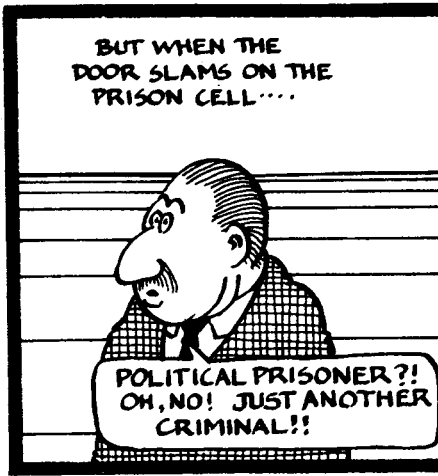
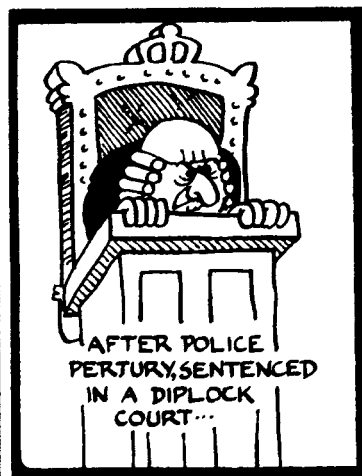
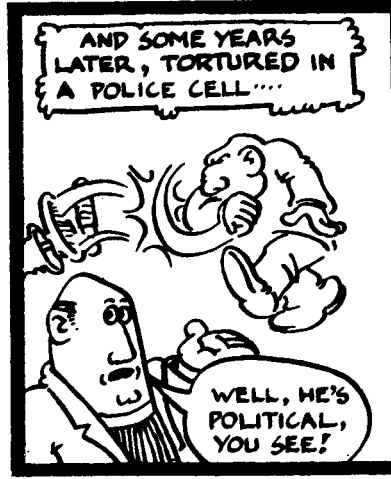
CORMAC

**A MONUMENT
TO BRITISH
JUSTICE**

SMASH IT!



Until 1976 prisoners convicted of political offences had 'special category' status and were allowed to organise their own lives in prison. When the British government removed this status, republican prisoners refused to wear prison clothes or do prison work in protest at the attempt to 'criminalise' them. After the 1981 hunger strike in which ten men died, the British government finally conceded prisoners in the north of Ireland their own clothes.



THE THICK END

Tell me
all about
H block!

AW COME ON - YOU DON'T REALLY
WANNA HEAR ALL THAT KRAP AGAIN -
I MEAN - YOU KNOW THEY'RE CRIMINALS
MURDERERS - BOMB THROWERS - MAD
DOGS - PSYCHOPATHS - CONVICTED
BY THE COURTS - THE DUE
PROCESS OF -

**THE LAW THE
LAW THE LAW
THE LAW LAW
LAW BRITISH
JUSTICE!**

INTERFERENCE
WILL BE RESUMED
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE

GEE! WISH I HAD A TEEVEE! I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE ANOTHER DOCUMENTARY ON THE SORROWFUL PLIGHT OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS!

So tell me all about **H** blocks!

THUD!
THUD!

DRAGGED OUT OF BED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, BROUGHT TO CASTLEREAGH...

I met Murder on the way; he had a face like Castlereagh.

EXCERPT FROM CONVERSATION
IN A PUB

66 "OH THAT'S ALL TRUE I SUPPOSE—
THE TORTURE AND EVERYTHING
I MEAN—AND THE COURTS AND
WHAT HAVE YOU—THE TRIALS
WITHOUT A JURY—ALL THAT
STUFF— BUT DON'T YOU
THINK THAT EVERY
PRISONER, EVERY CONVICT
IS A POLITICAL PRISONER
— A VICTIM, AS IT WERE
OF AN UNJUST SOCIAL
SYSTEM WHICH 93

"FOR GODSAKE
WISE UP"

JUST BECAUSE THEIR ALLEGED OFFENCES WERE OF A POLITICAL NATURE; JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE TORTURED; JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE TRIED BEFORE "SPECIAL COURTS"; JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE ONCE RECOGNIZED AS "SPECIAL CATEGORY" BY A **TORY** GOVERNMENT; JUST BE-

AND EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT
THERE ARE NO POLITICAL PRISONERS
CEPT IN RUSSIA!

H BLOCK

A GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS

OR

HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE BRITISH OPPRESSION IN IRELAND

BY CORMAC

MANY FINE YOUNG HACKS FROM THE VARIOUS MEDIA MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN BEING TRULY OBJECTIVE* ABOUT THE SITUATION IN H.M. PRISONS IN THE COMING WEEKS....

...THE FOLLOWING NOTES ARE FOR THEIR BENEFIT.

* "TRULY OBJECTIVE." THIS MEANS JUSTIFYING ANYTHING THE BRITISH GOVT. DOES OR SAYS

1 WHO ARE THESE PRISONERS IN THE H BLOCKS?

THEY ARE, OF COURSE, NO DIFFERENT FROM COMMON CRIMINALS!

PRACTICE SAYING THIS WITH A STRAIGHT FACE IN FRONT OF A MIRROR!

OTHER USEFUL CONCEPTS

GODFATHER

MARXIST BANDIT

HAVING USED THESE PHRASES IN A NEWS ITEM YOU MAY LATER FIND YOURSELF DESCRIBED BY YOUR FRIENDS AS A BUFFOON OR A MORON... HOWEVER THESE FRIENDS DO NOT PAY YOUR WAGES!

2 REMEMBER THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE CONVICTED BY THE DUE PROCESS OF THE LAW

.... THE JURY IN "CROWN COURT" WAS COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC....

CROWN COURT

WHAT'S A JURY?

3 CONFESSIONS EXTRACTED BY TORTURE??

THERE MAY BE A FEW ISOLATED CASES WHERE INTERROGATORS WERE EXCESSIVE IN THEIR ZEAL BUT LET'S NOT EXAGGERATE.... AND ANYWAY THE ISSUE IS PRISONS NOT COURTS...

4 HOW TO COUNT THE PEOPLE AT A DEMONSTRATION

TO THE INEXPERIENCED EYE THIS MAY APPEAR TO BE TWENTY PEOPLE — IN FACT IT IS ONLY ONE PERSON CUNNINGLY DISGUISED! A TYPICAL PROVO TRICK!

IF YOU SEE WHAT APPEARS TO BE 20,000 PEOPLE MARCHING AT A DEMO JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY DEMANDS THAT YOU REPORT THIS AS "ABOUT ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE TODAY..." ETC.

5 IF AT ALL POSSIBLE YOU SHOULD IGNORE THE SUBJECT COMPLETELY!!

ONLY INTERESTED IN BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES!

WHAT KIND OF CALLOUS CRETIN COULD MAKE SUCH A COMMENT DURING A HUNGER STRIKE!?!?

6 IF THE SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS LOOKS LIKE A COMPROMISE HAVE YOUR STORY PREPARED....

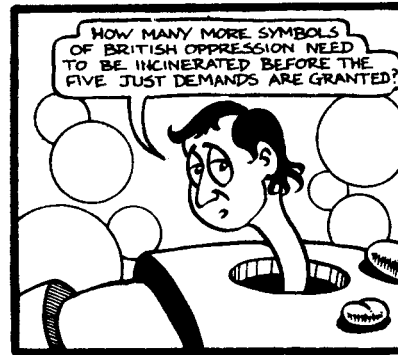
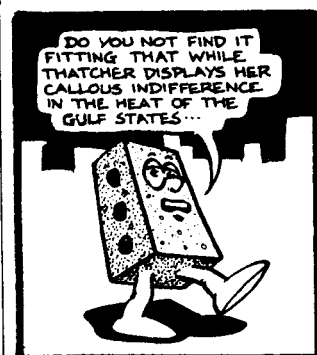
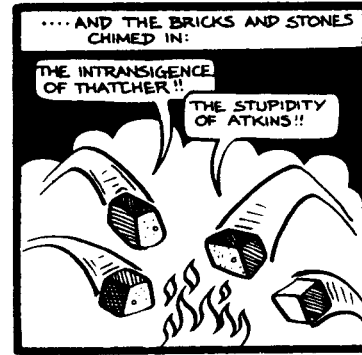
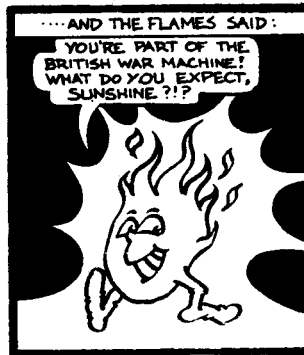
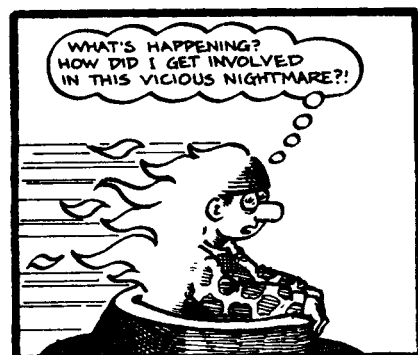
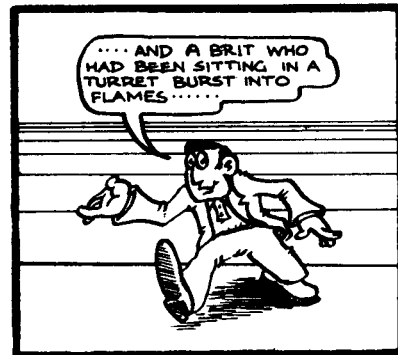
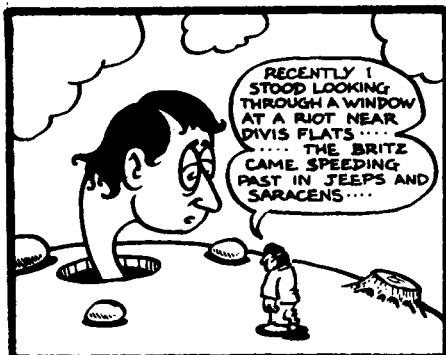
THE TENACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN THEM THE MUCH EXPECTED VICTORY AND THE UTTERLY DEMORALISED PROVOS...

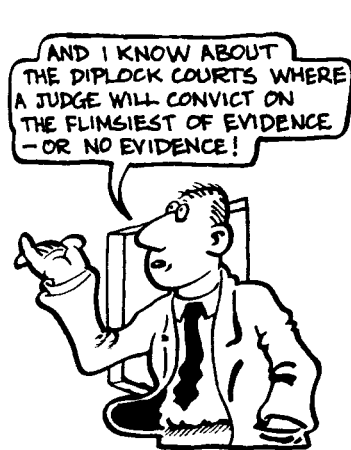
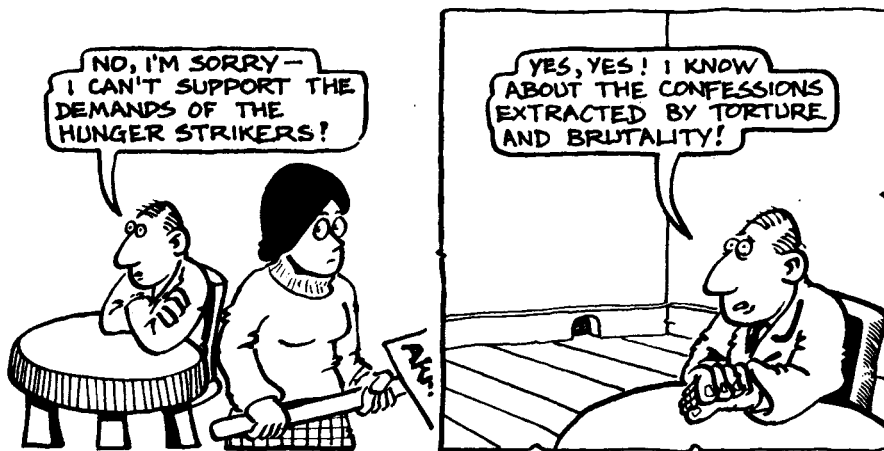
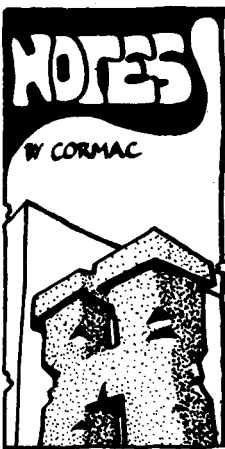
7 AND IF THE SOLUTION IS TOTAL AND BLATANT CAPITULATION BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT....

IN A BRILLIANT DIPLOMATIC COUP THE GOVERNMENT HAVE REMOVED A MAJOR WEAPON FROM THE PROPAGANDA ARSENAL OF THE TERRORISTS....

TV

TV

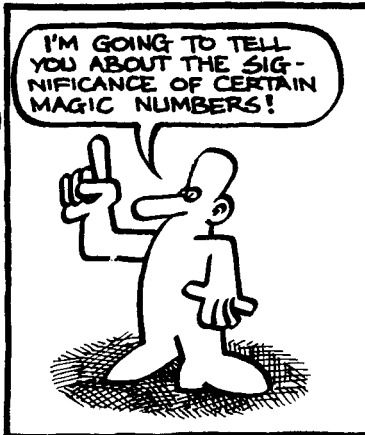




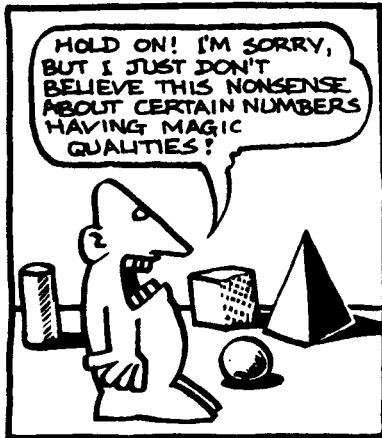
Notes

by CORMAC

DON'T BE SO IRRATIONAL!

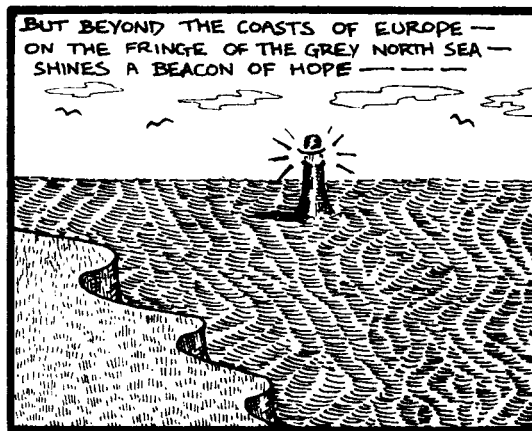


THE NUMBER THREE, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS MANY WELL-KNOWN MYSTICAL QUALITIES AND THE NUMBER FIVE IS....



Bobby Sands, MP for Fermanagh-South Tyrone, died on hunger strike on 5 May 1981. His election agent, Owen Carron, was elected in his place and received 31,278 votes.

AP/RN 5 Sep 81



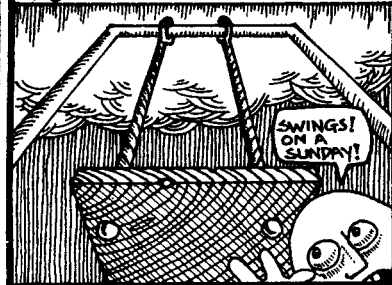
ORANGIES & BAD APPLES



THE CONSPIRACY

by cormac

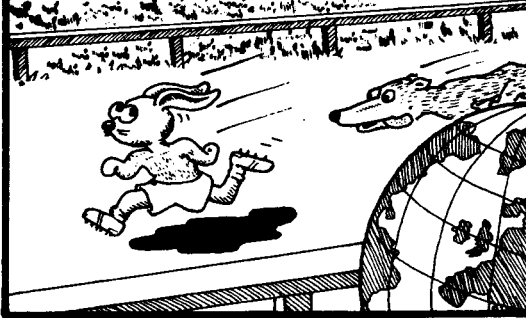
THE CIVILISED WORLD SINKS INTO A MIRE OF DEPRAVITY AND CORRUPTION !!!



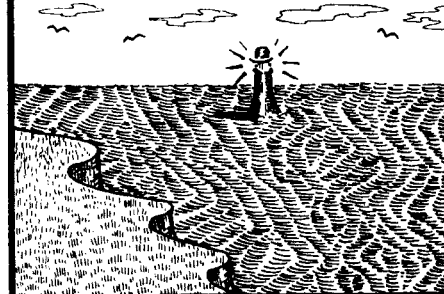
DRINK-CRAZED CONTINENTALS REFILE THE SABBATH AND PLOT BLOODY REVOLUTION...



YES! THE WORLD IS GOING TO THE DOGS !!



BUT BEYOND THE COASTS OF EUROPE — ON THE FRINGE OF THE GREY NORTH SEA — SHINES A BEACON OF HOPE



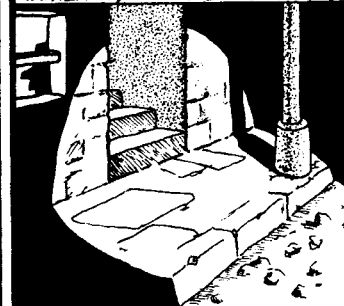
THE LAST BASTION OF CHRISTIAN MORALITY IN THE WORLD??



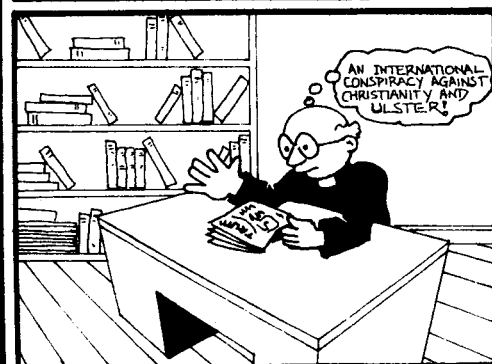
ULSTER!!! [OR, TO BE QUITE ACCURATE] NORTH EAST IRELAND



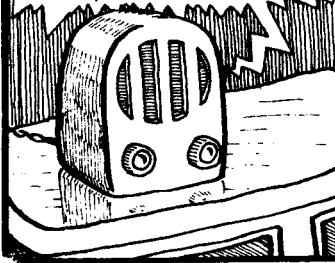
BUT EVIL MEN ARE AT WORK TO DESTROY THIS PARADISE — THEY GATHER IN DARK AND SECRET PLACES



WHO ARE THESE EVIL MEN WHO SEEK TO SUBVERT THIS PLEASANT LITTLE DEMOCRACY OF OURS??



... MORE REPORTS ARE COMING IN OF AN ELDERLY MAN WANDERING THE STREETS AND DRESSED IN STRANGE CLOTHING. HE IS STOPPING PEOPLE ON THE STREETS AND TELLING THEM NOT TO GO TO WORK...





In 1981 Ian Paisley formed the Third Force, a private army of loyalists many of whom possessed legally-held guns.

Taig is a derogatory name for a Catholic, used by loyalists.

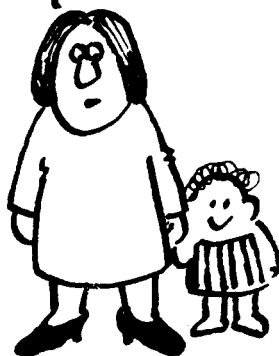
In 1977 Ian Paisley led a loyalist strike demanding greater repression against republicans.

IN JULY
1690 TWO KINGS
FOUGHT A BATTLE
AT THE RIVER BOYNE
... THE DUTCH KING
BEAT THE OTHER
ONE, WHO WAS
ENGLISH...

GORMAC



AND PEOPLE
WHO WERE
LOYAL TO THE
BRITISH CROWN
BECAME ORANGE-
MEN BECAUSE
ORANGE IS THE
NATIONAL
COLOUR OF
HOLLAND...

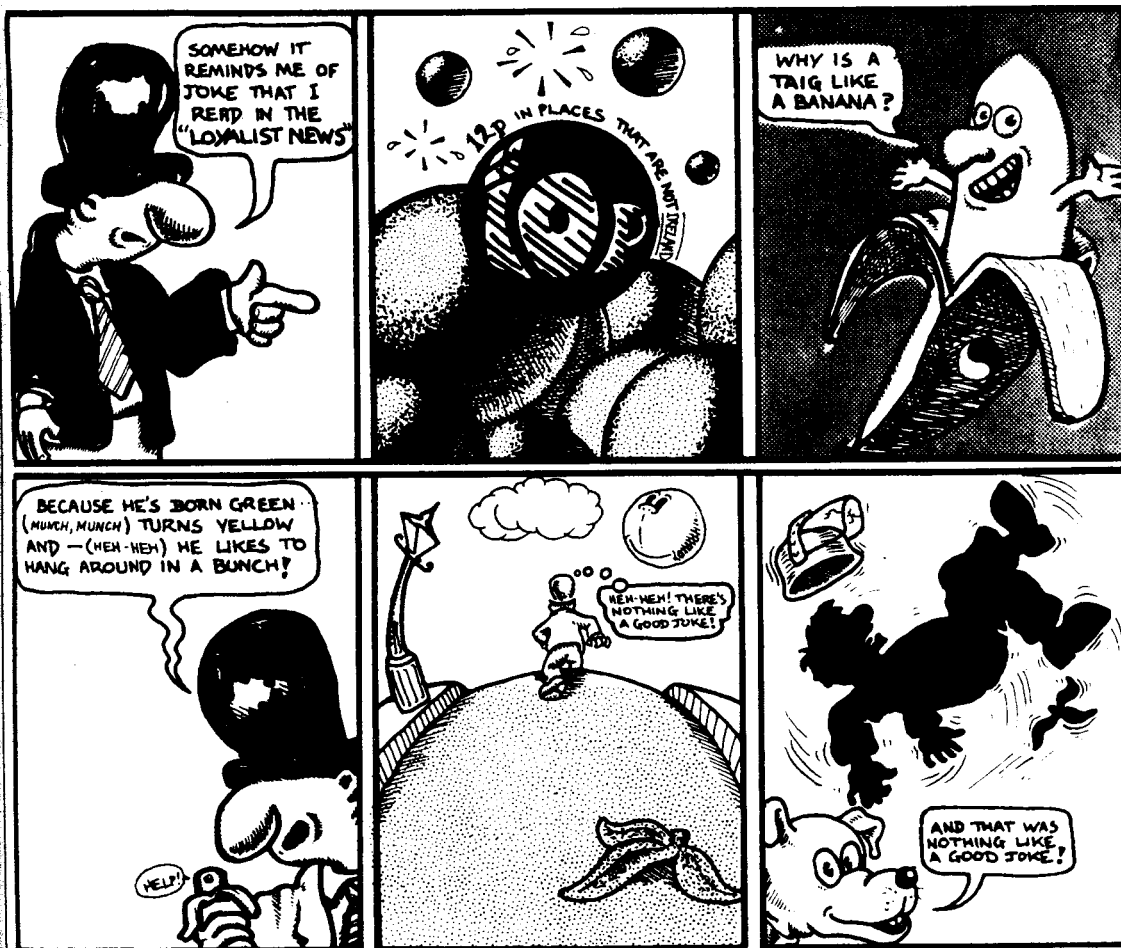


AND EVERY
YEAR ON THE
12TH OF JULY
THEY MARCH
TO A FIELD AND
LISTEN TO
SPEECHES...

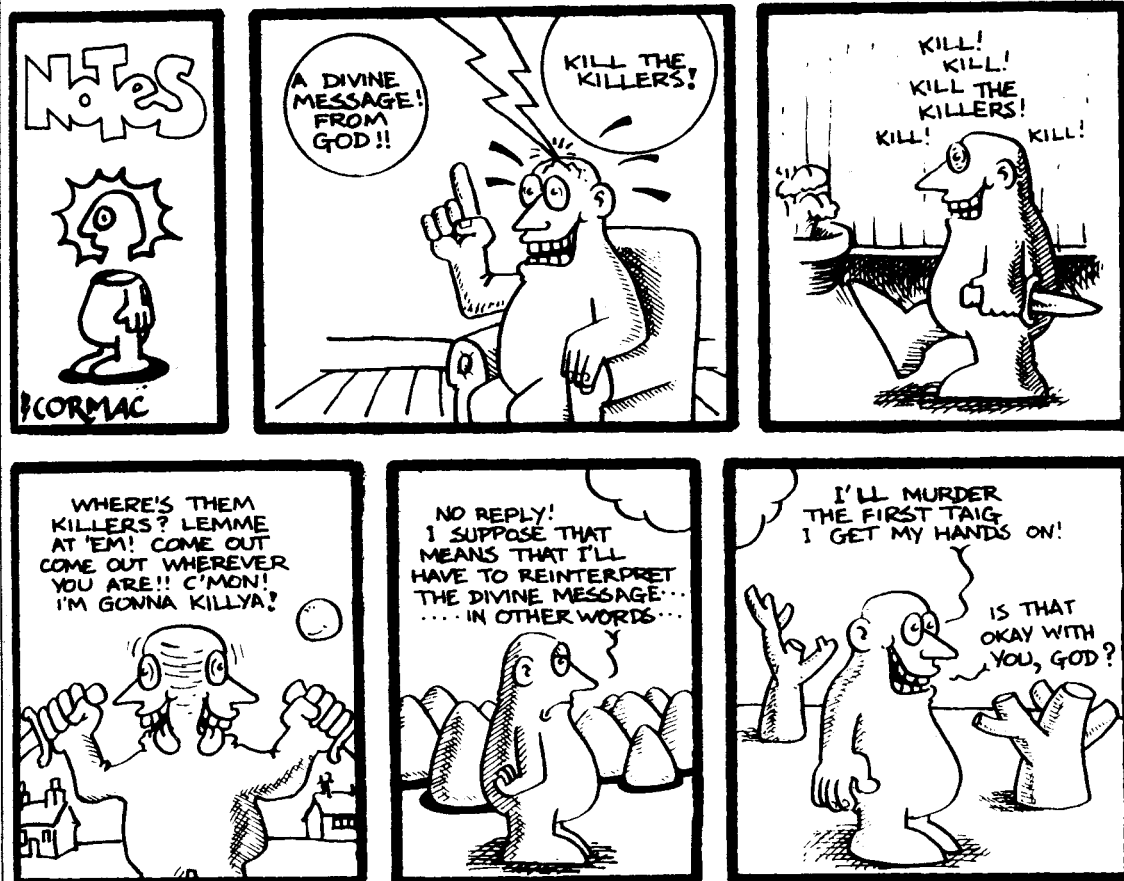


I PREFER THE
ONE ABOUT THE
LITTLE GIRL AND
THE THREE
BEARS



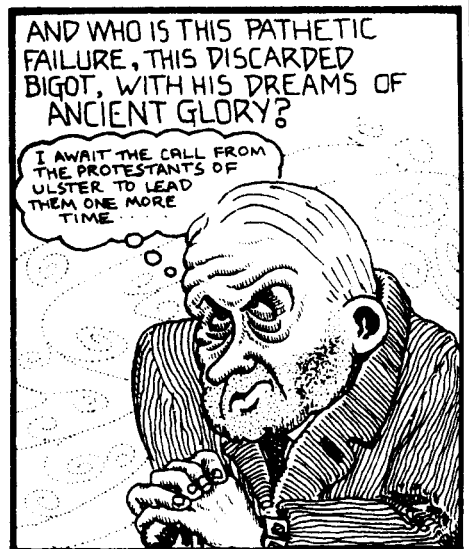
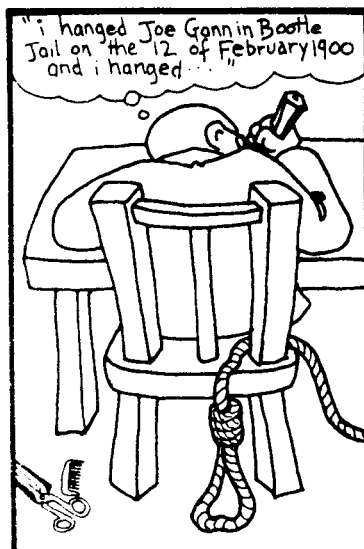
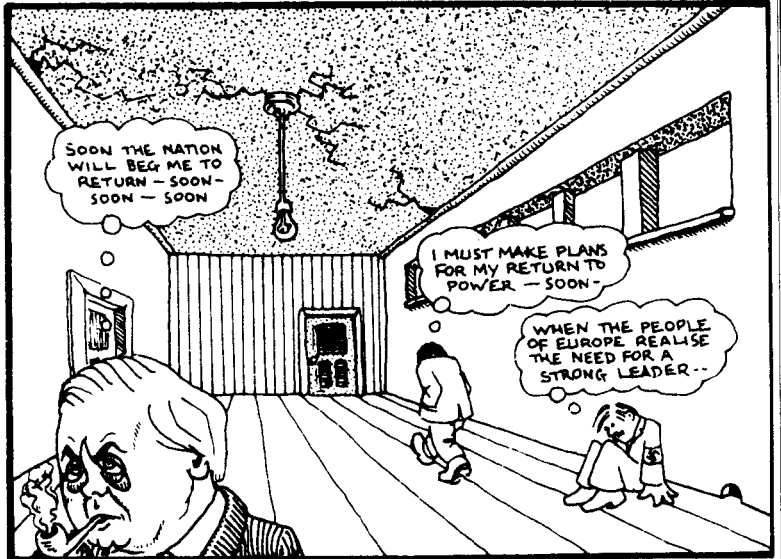
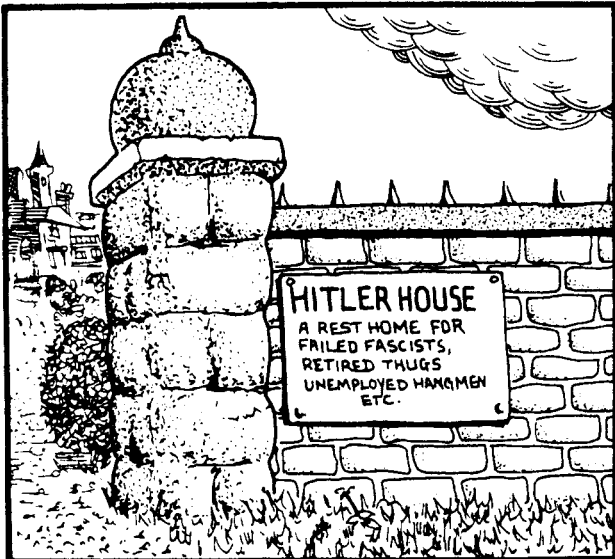


AP/RN 3 Dec 81





FAULKNER'S FINAL FLASH



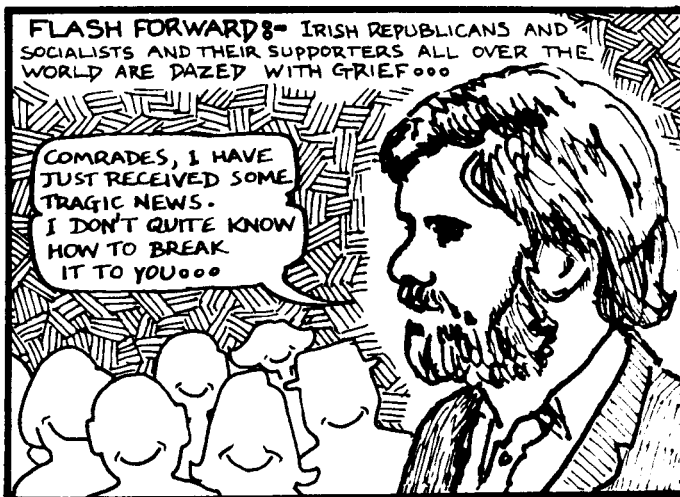
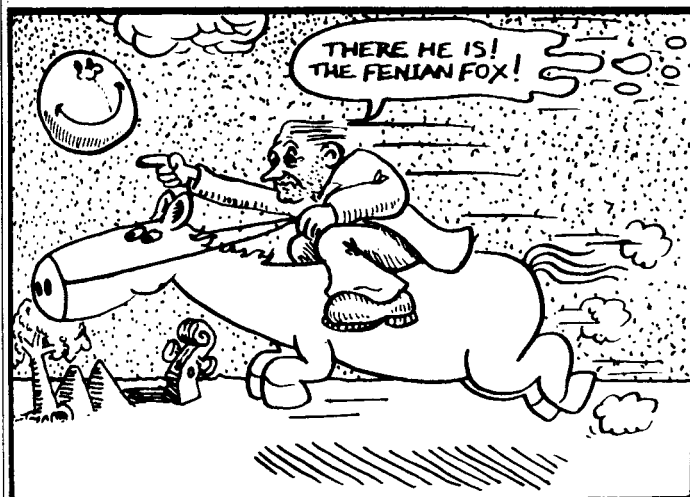
CHAP.2 THEY SHOOT HORSES...

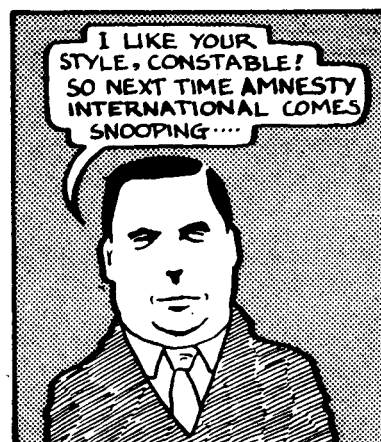
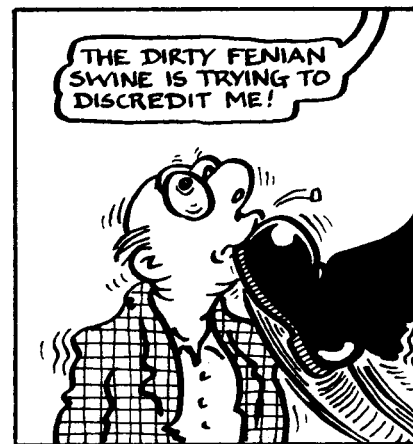
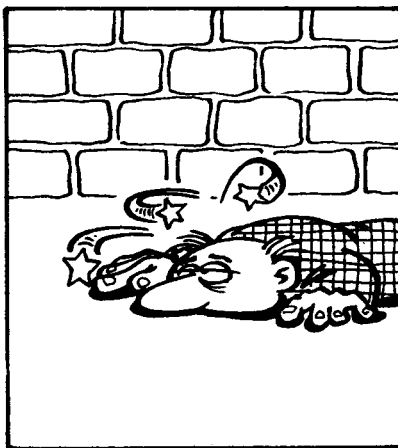


THE REPUBLICAN HORDES WILL TREMBLE!! FAULKNER RIDES THE SPIDER AGAIN!!!



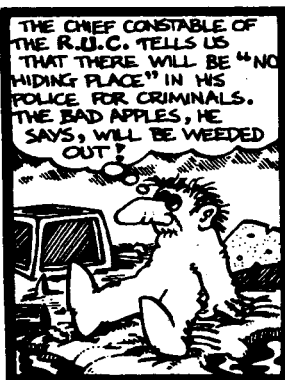
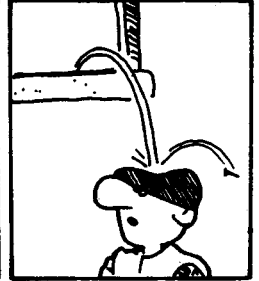
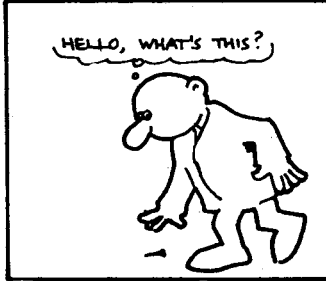
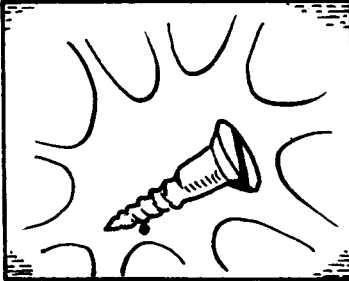
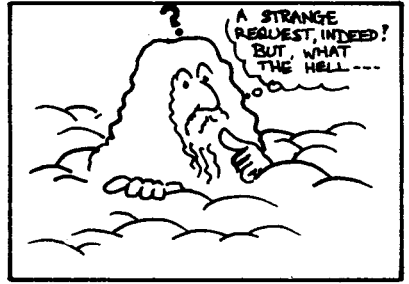
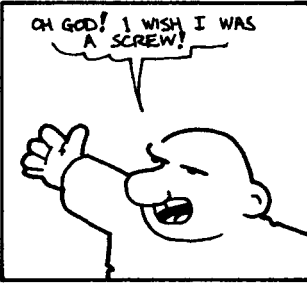
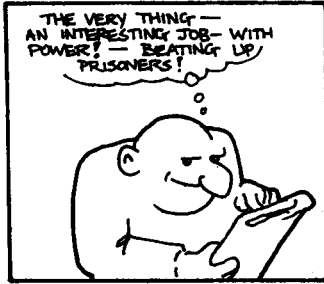
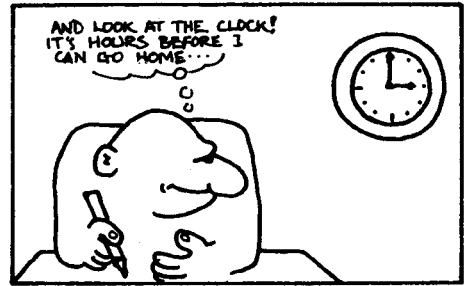
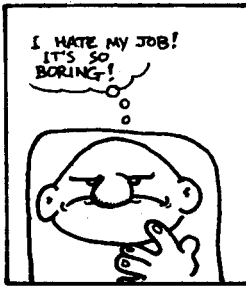
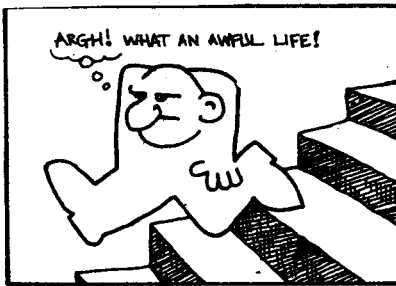
COME ON, YOU REBEL DOGS! I'VE BUILT A NEW CAGE FOR YOU!!

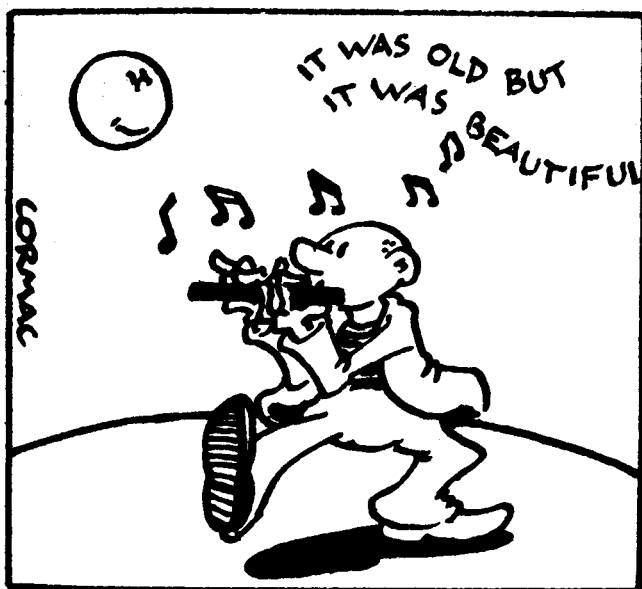




NOTES

BY
CORMAC





By May 1981, Loyalists had been responsible for approximately 800 sectarian murders.

Notes
by
Cormac

I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT!



OUR POLICEMEN - THE
WONDERFUL R.U.C. - HAVE
BEEN TORTURING SUSPECTS
- FORCING CONFESSIONS -



THE FAIR NAME
OF OUR PROVINCE
IS BESMIRCHED
ONCE MORE!



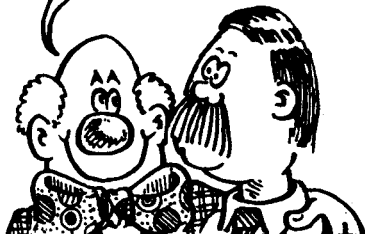
WHY CRY OVER
A FEW BAD
APPLES?



THOUGH LITTLE ROY'S
USE OF THAT PHRASE IS
UNUSUAL AS THE PROVERB
INDICATES THAT ONE BAD
APPLE IN A BARREL
WILL MAKE THE REST
ROTTEN!



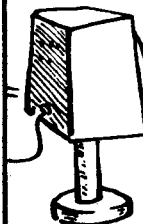
BESIDES, THEY'RE GOING
TO INSTAL CLOSED-CIRCUIT
TELEVISION TO KEEP AN
EYE ON THE TORTU-SORRY,
INTERROGATORS -



GET TORE INTO
HIM, BILLY!

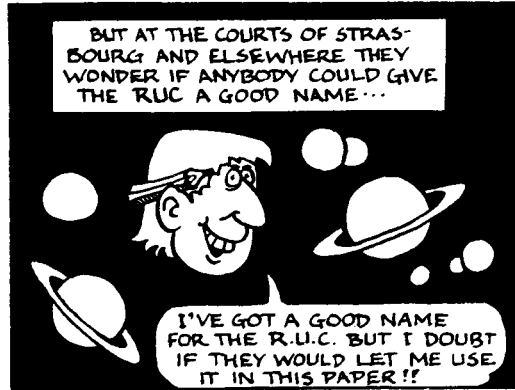
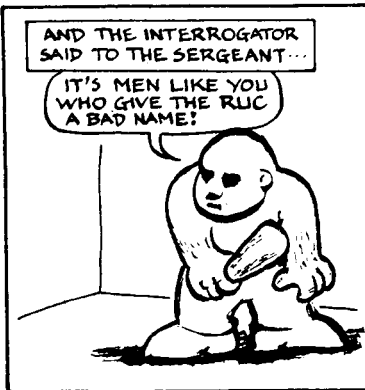
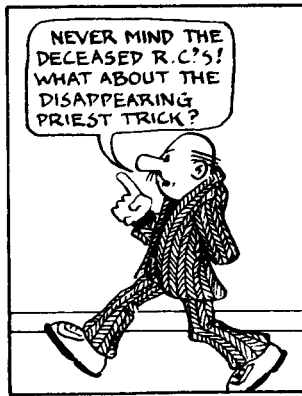
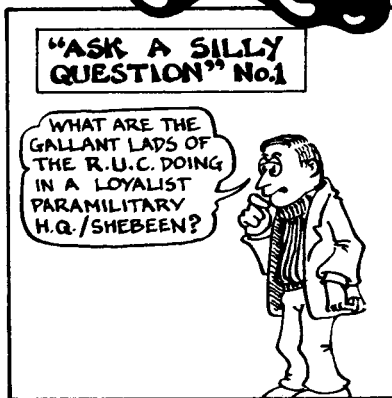
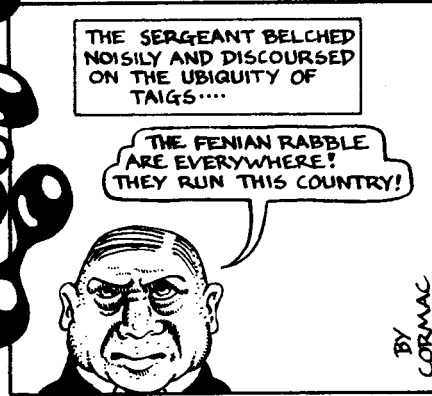
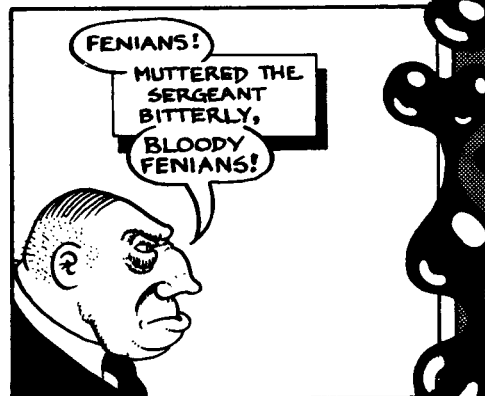
STICK THE
BOOT IN HIS
RIBS, CHARLIE!

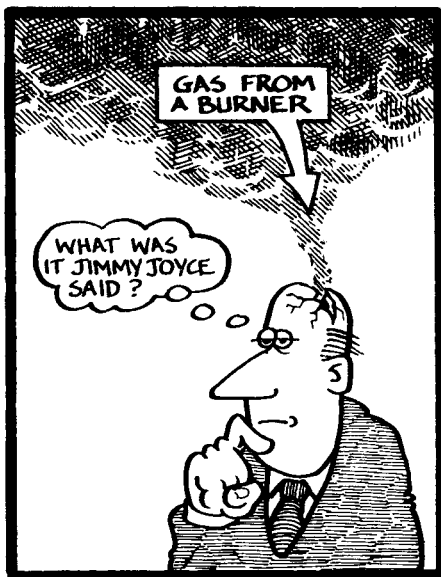
NICE ONE,
JOE!



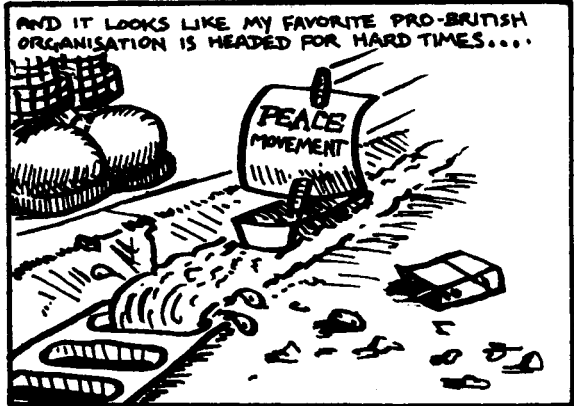
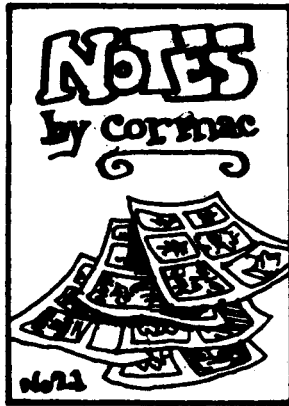
CORMAC

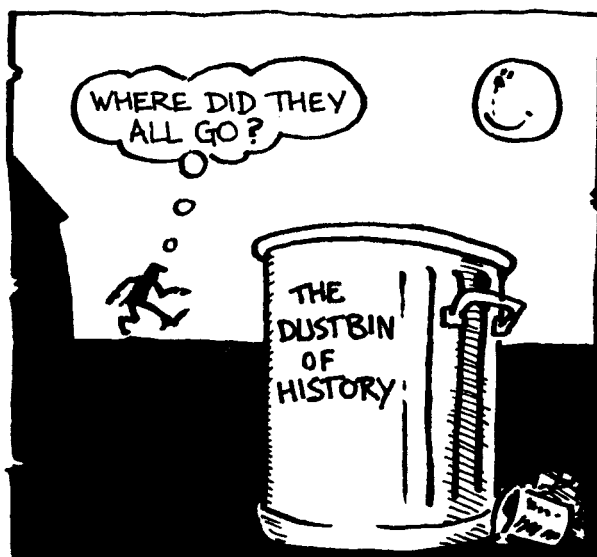
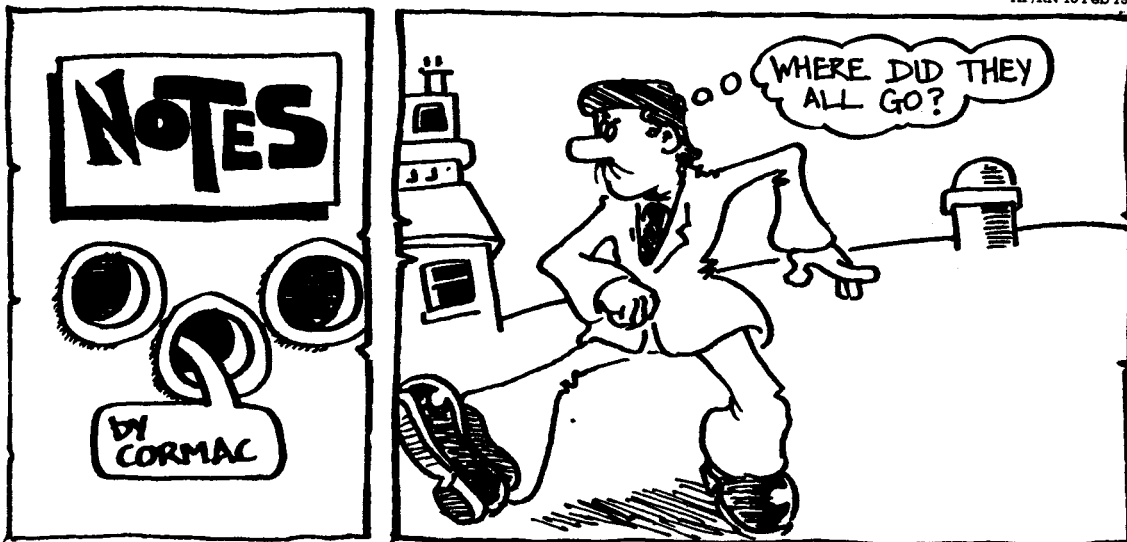
The Bennett Report of
March 1979 recommended
that closed circuit TV be in-
stalled to monitor interog-
ations.



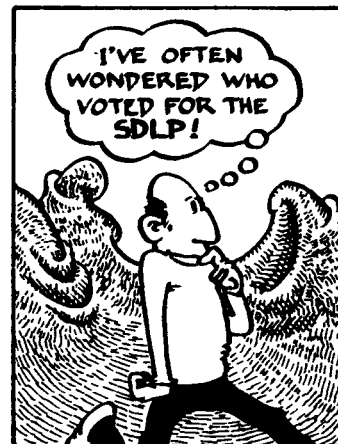
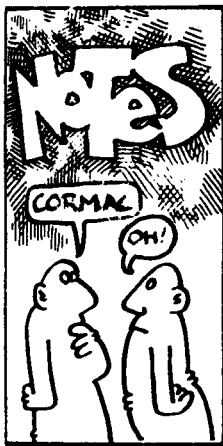


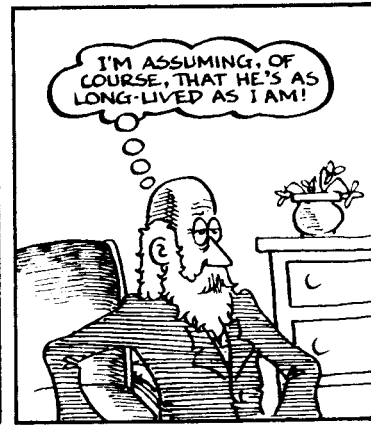
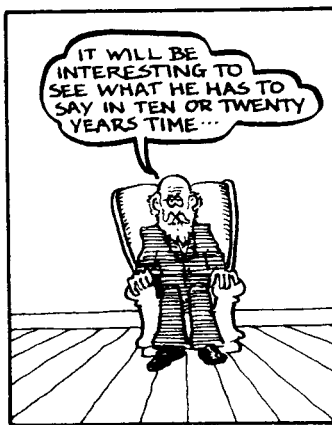
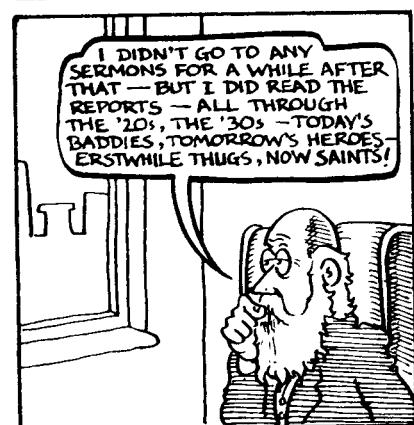
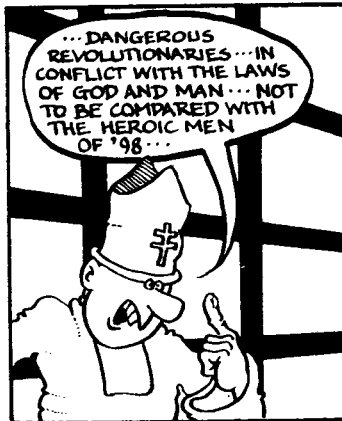
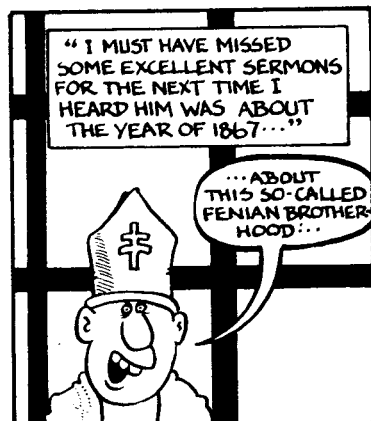
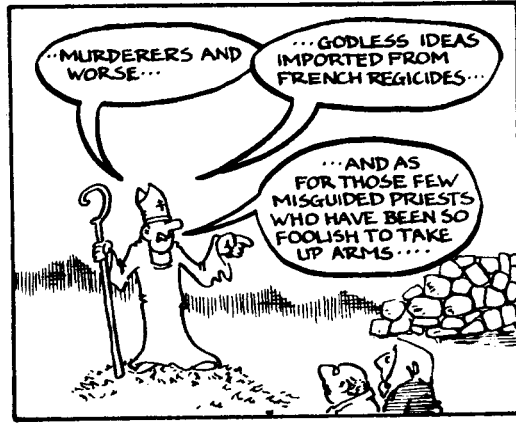
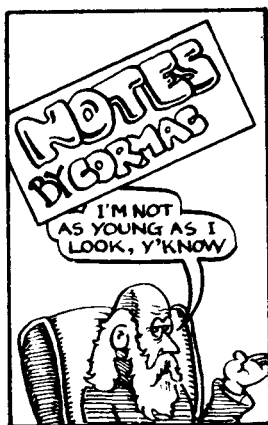
CHRIST & CAESAR

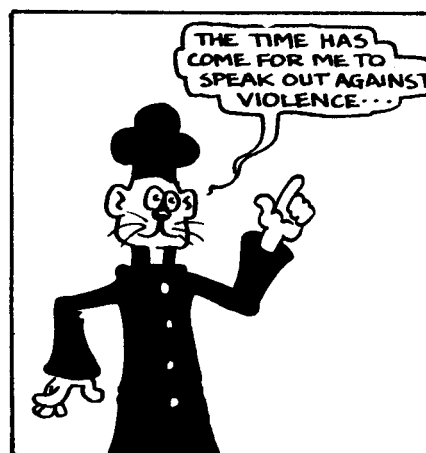
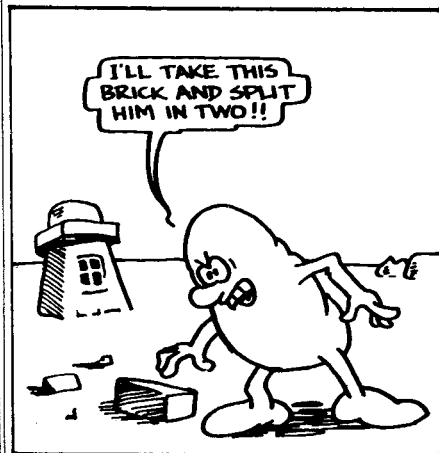
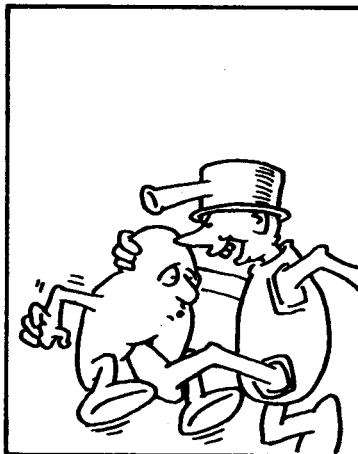
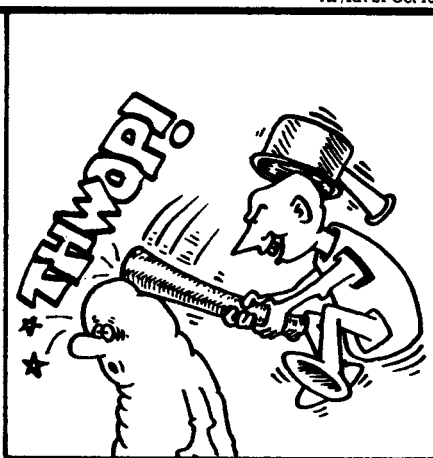
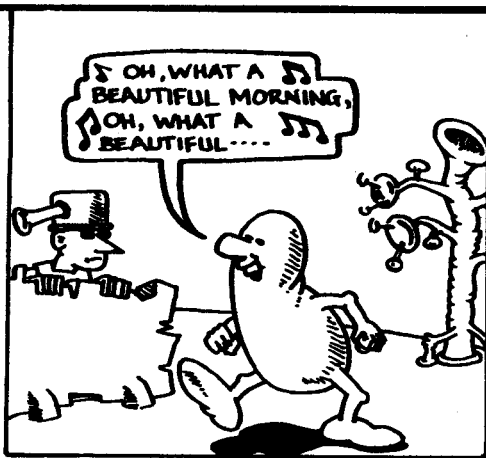
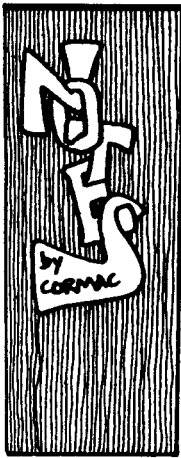








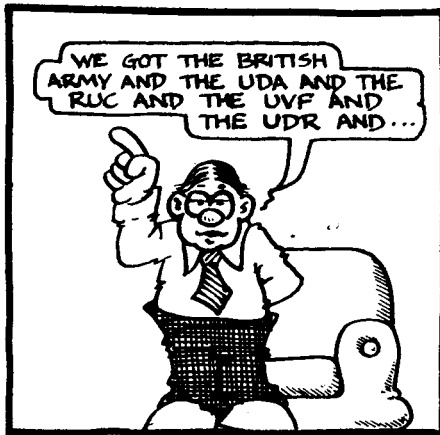




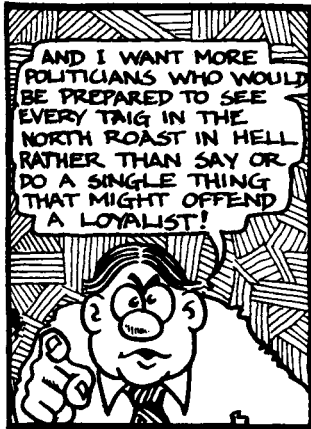


Notes

by CORMAC



... BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH!!
I'M NOT GOING TO FEEL
REALLY SAFE UNTIL THEY
BRING BACK THE
B-SPECIALS!!



YOU MEAN, MORE
POLITICIANS LIKE
IAN PAISLEY?



Garrett Fitzgerald, leader of Fine Gael, became prime minister in June 1981. Charles Haughey of Fianna Fail preceded him and returned to office in February 1982.

AP/RN 22 July 82



CHARLIE HAUGHEY?
BUT I TOLD YOU CLEARLY!
"THE HYPOCRITICAL OLD
LAYABOUT", I SAID! "THE
PARASITICAL MILLION-
AIRE!" "THE DECEITFUL
OLD..."



THE HEROIC
SPIRIT OF
BRITISH
IMPERIALISM

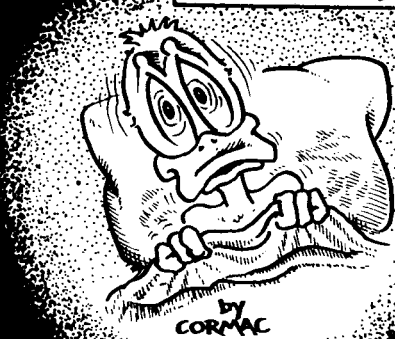
ALL THESE YEARS OF TRYING TO
DEFEAT THE REPUBLICANS AND STILL
NO SIGN OF SUCCESS! PERHAPS IT'S
TIME TO GIVE UP AND GO HOME!



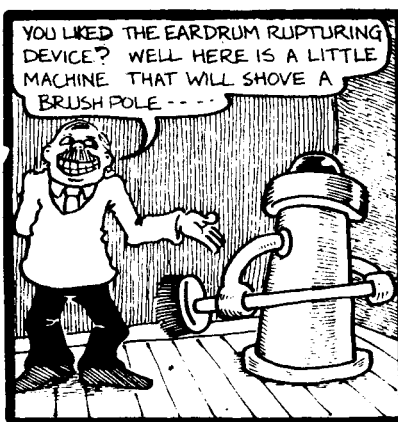
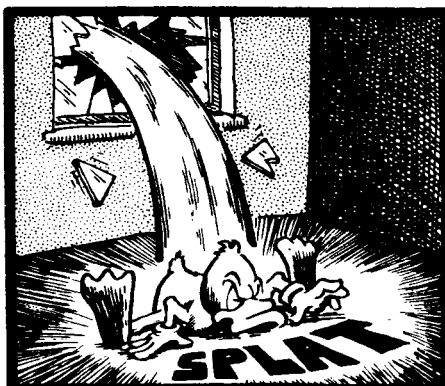
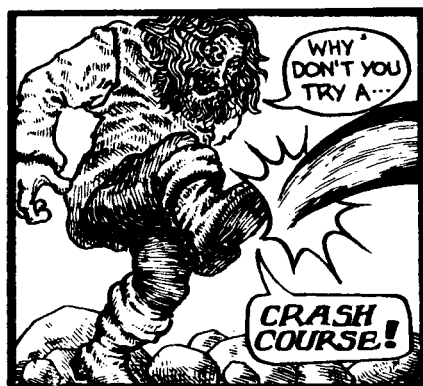
PERFIDIOUS
ALBION

DO DWARVES DREAM OF GIANT PROVOVS?

IN THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT HE RISES SHAKING WITH FEAR AND DREAD



ROY "DUCKBOY" MASON HAS A RECURRING DREAM - A NIGHTMARE WHICH RUINS SLEEP -



NOTES BY CORMAC



OF COURSE WE ARE, ROY! IT'S OUR LOVE OF IRISH CULTURE!!!



WE'RE REELING AND JIGGING AND THIS IS A NEW SET DANCE!

EVERYTIME MASON SAYS THAT THE IRA ARE REELING THE POLICE GET A HEADACHE!



WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR? HELMET, SOLDIER BOY?

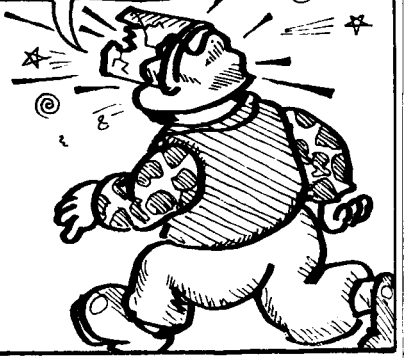
IT WAS USED FOR PRACTICE....



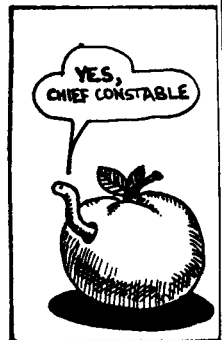
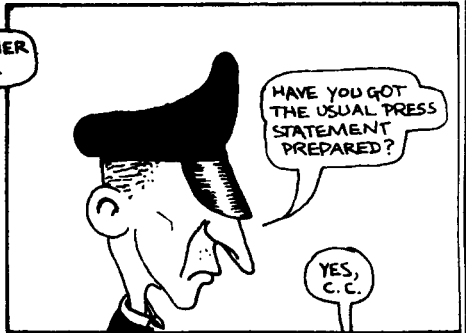
BY THE JAMES CONNOLLY SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING!



AND THEY DIDN'T EVEN TAKE THE HELMET OFF MY HEAD — MY BRAIN "REELY" HURTS!



Roy Mason was Labour's Northern Ireland Secretary from mid-1976 to May 1979.

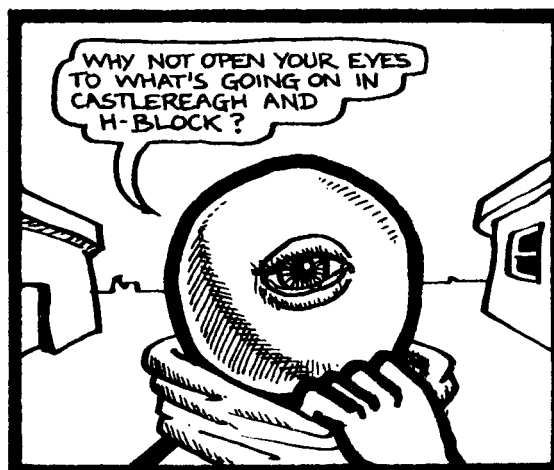
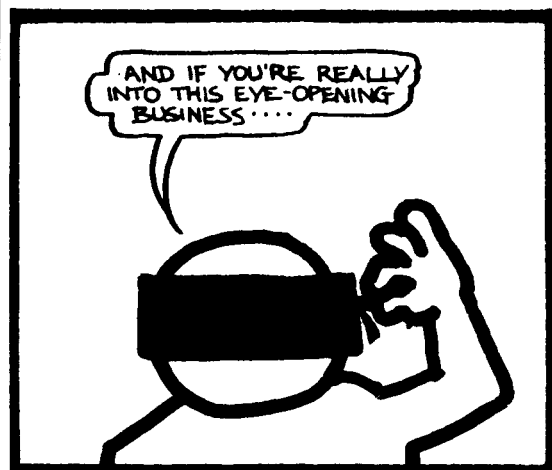
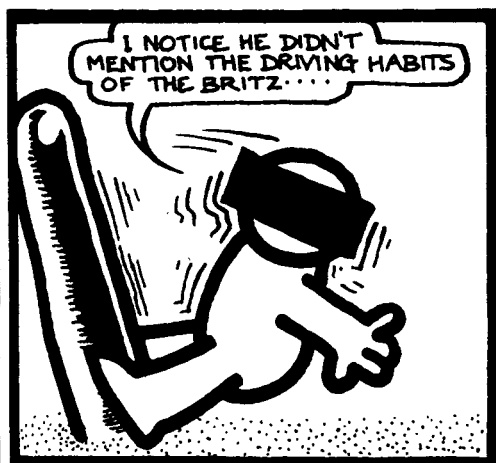


On 31 July 1975, three members of the Miami Showband, a famous Irish group, were murdered by loyalists. All except one of the killers were past or serving members of the UDR, the locally-recruited unit of the British army.

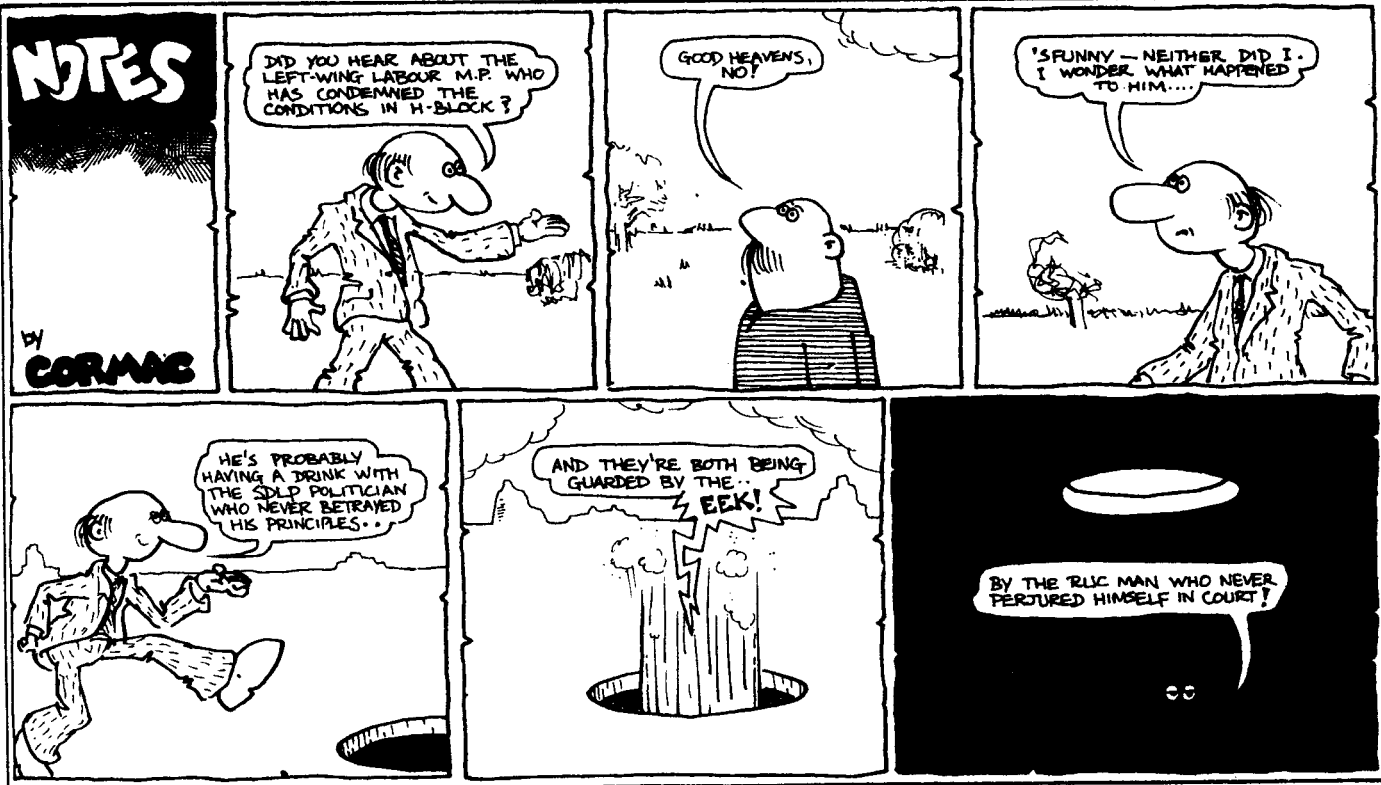
NOTES



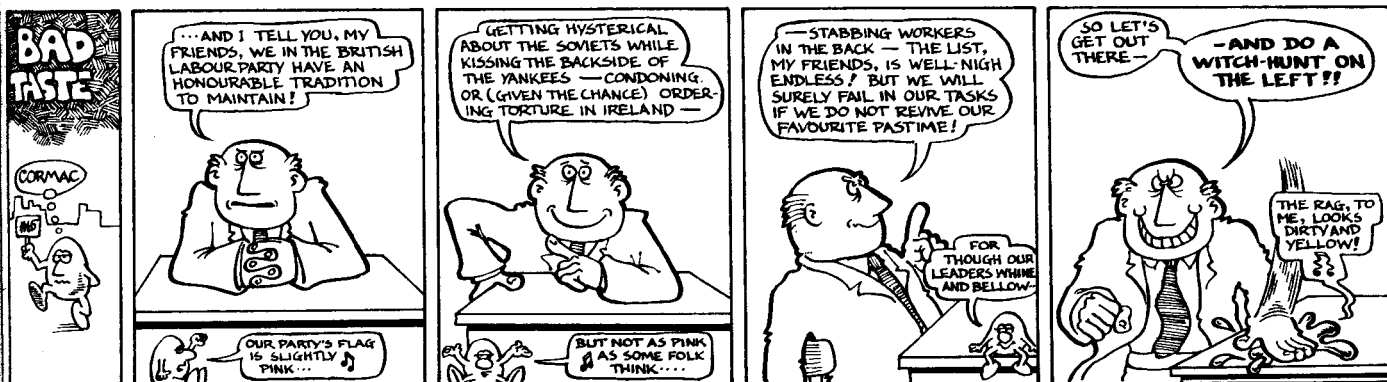
CORMAC









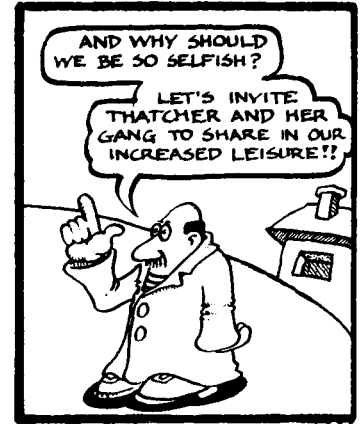
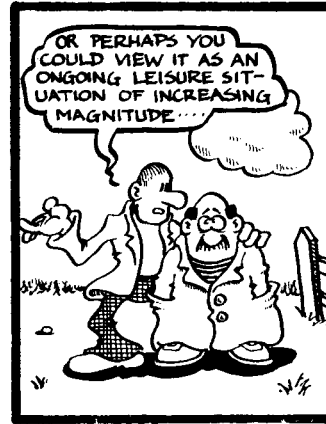
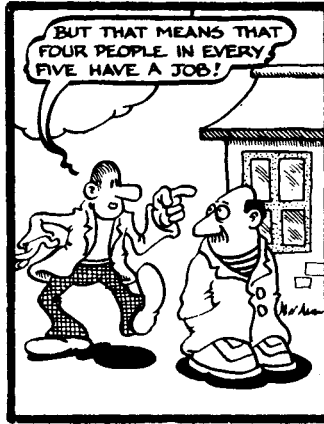


AP/RN 30 June 79



Humphrey Atkins was a Tory Northern Ireland Secretary.

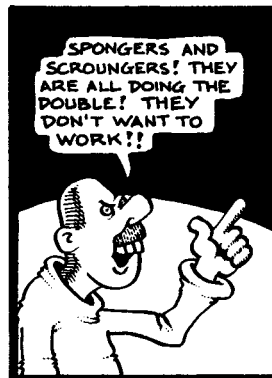
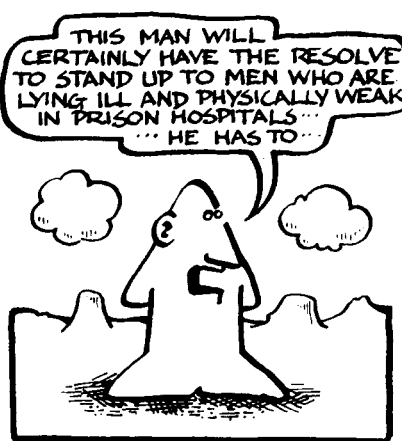
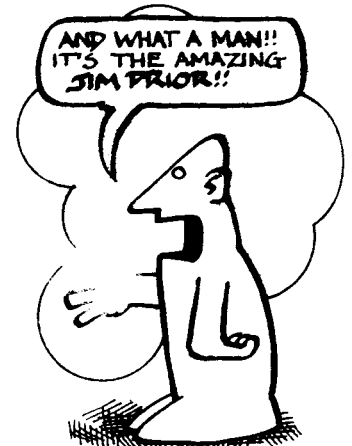
BAD TASTE

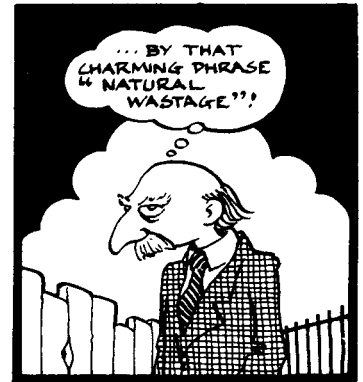
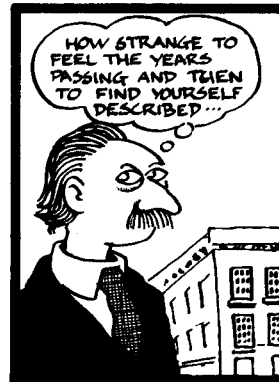


NOTES

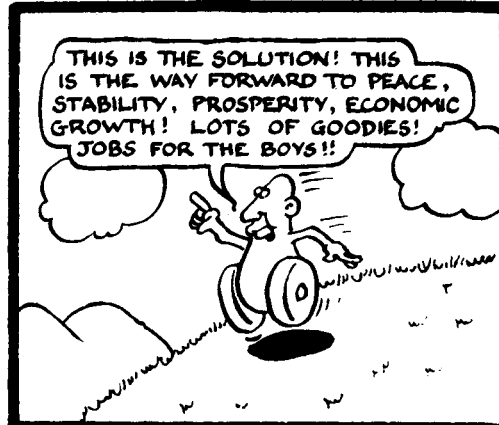
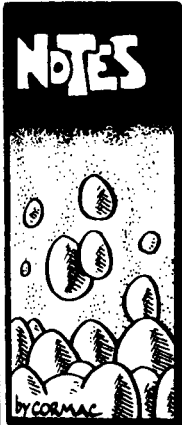
BY CORMAC

SO FAREWELL THEN, OLD WHATSISNAME...

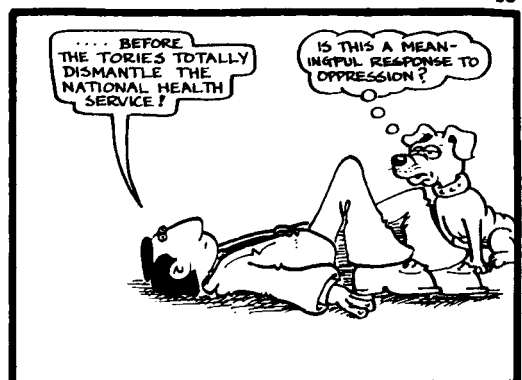
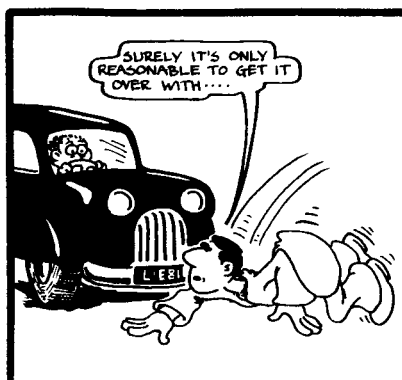
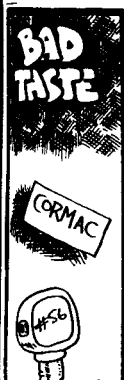




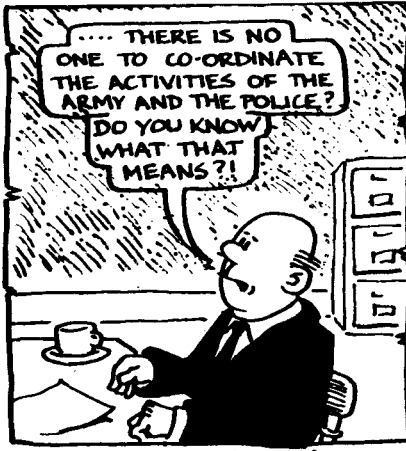
AP/RN 15 Apr 82



Rolling devolution: yet another British attempt to cobble together a government in the Six Counties.







Spymaster Maurice Oldfield, former chief of M16, became 'security' supremo in October 1979.

NOTES BY CORMAC

IN THE OFFICE OF A TELEVISION
CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMME....

SO WHAT'S THE NEXT
PROGRAMME ABOUT?

I DON'T
KNOW...

ANY GOOD
IDEAS, PUSS?

I'VE GOT
IT!

LET'S DO AN
ANALYSIS OF
REPUBLICANISM!

A REAL
IN-DEPTH
STUDY!

I LIKE IT!
I LIKE IT!

WE'LL EXPLAIN THE
ORIGINS OF REPUBLICAN
IDEOLOGY!

WE'LL RELATE THE
HISTORY OF THE REPUB-
LICAN MOVEMENT!

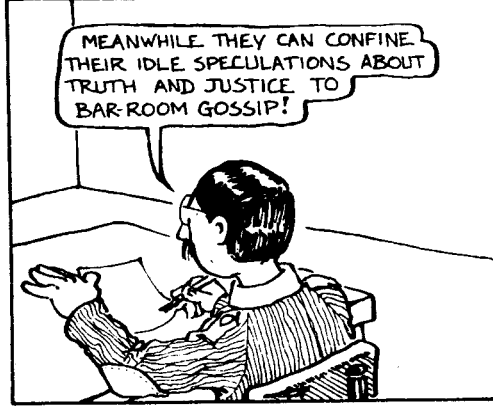
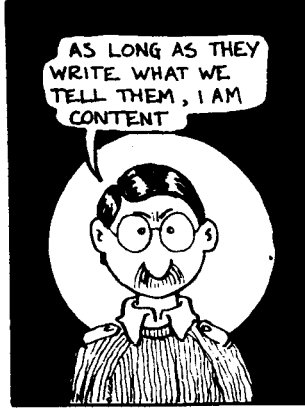
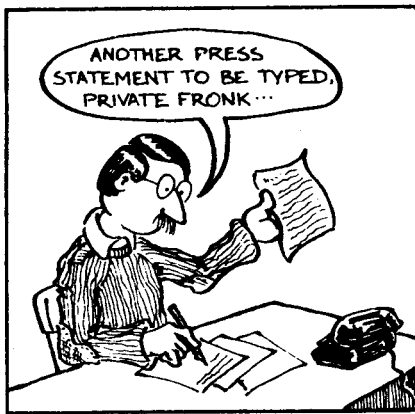
AND WE WILL
INTERVIEW
EVERYBODY!!

EVERYBODY?

EVERYBODY?

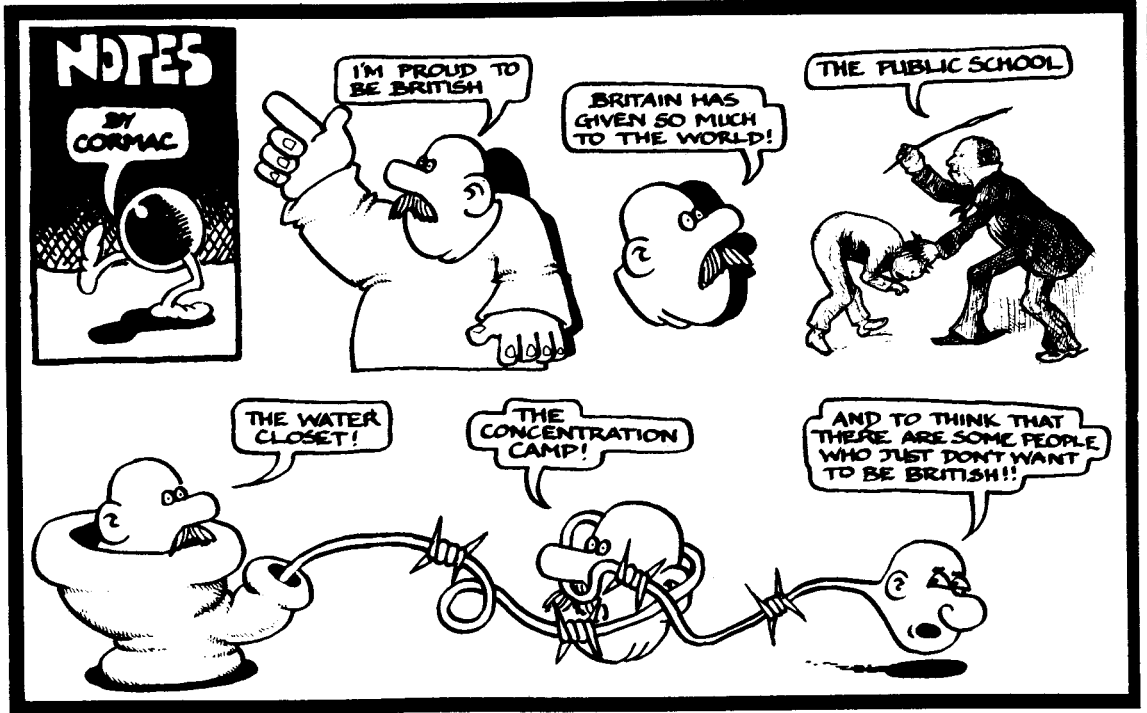
EVERYBODY!!
...EXCEPT,
OF COURSE,
REPUBLICANS!

In April 1980, BBC2 showed a programme which set out to analyse the republican tradition. Interviewees included representatives of the Southern government and opposition and of the SDLP - but no republicans.









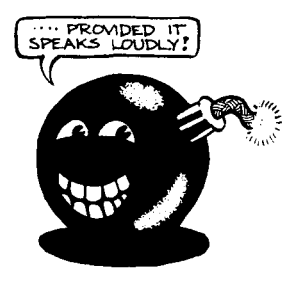
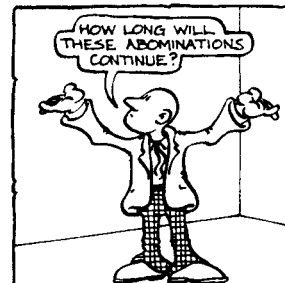
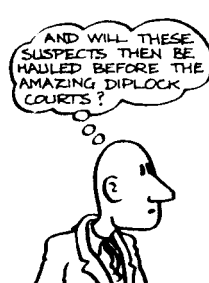
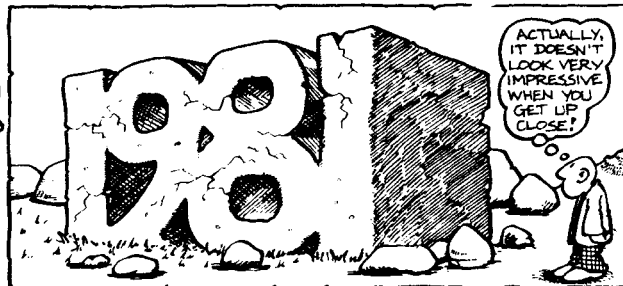
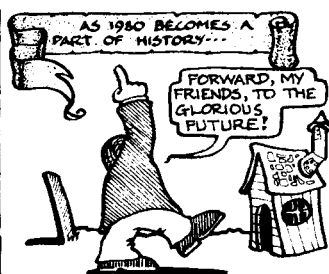
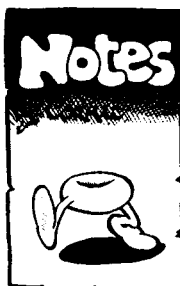
SPEAKING

LOUDLY



.... PROVIDED IT
SPEAKS LOUDLY!



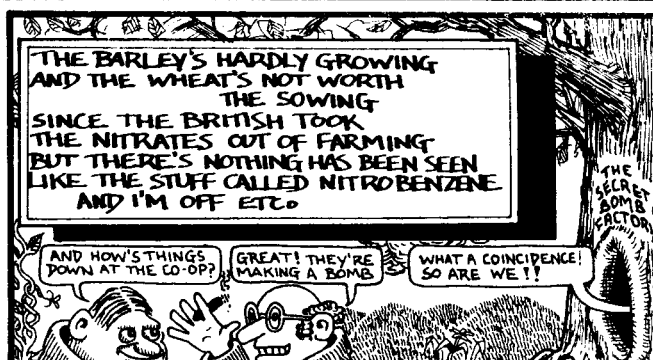
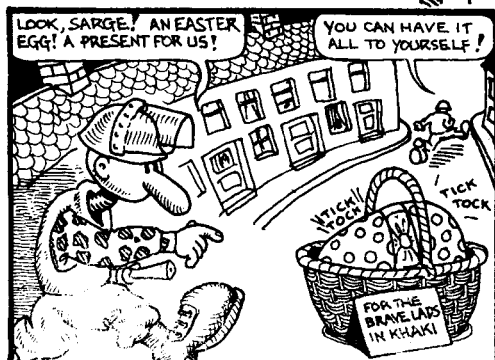
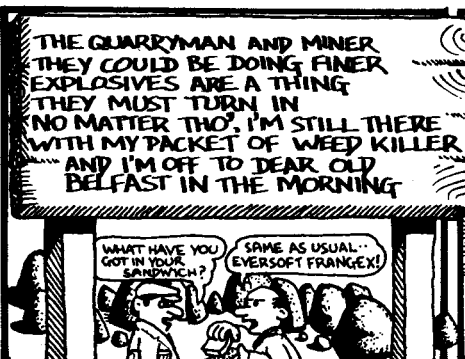
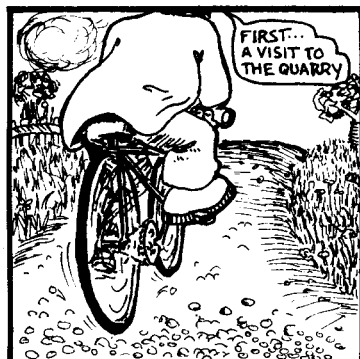


THE PROVO ENGINEER

ASONG BY GRIMSHAW : DRAWN BY CORMAC : AIR "OFF TO PHILADELPHIA"

VERSE 1

I SAW ON TELEVISION
THE GENERAL'S DECISION
THEY'RE SHOOTING PETROL BOMBERS
WITHOUT WARNING
SO I SWITCHED OFF THE TELLY
AND PICKED UP A TON OF GELLY
AND I'M OFF TO DEAR OLD
BELFAST IN THE MORNING.



LAST VERSE

THE CHEMICALS ARE RARE NOW
WHAT ELSE CAN WE PREPARE NOW
THE ARMY SAYS THE I.R.A.'S
IN MOURNING.
I WONDER WHAT'S THEIR ANSWER
TO A RUSSIAN ROCKET LAUNCHER
SO I'M OFF TO DEAR OLD
BELFAST IN THE MORNING.





NOTES

BY CORMAC

I HEAR YOUR OUL' MATE JIMMY IS UP ON ANOTHER CHARGE...

THAT'S RIGHT...
...THEY'VE ACCUSED HIM OF SOME DEMOLITION WORK!

DEMOLITION WORK? THAT DOESN'T SOUND SERIOUS!

THINK SO? HE DEMOLISHED A COUPLE OF BARRACKS...

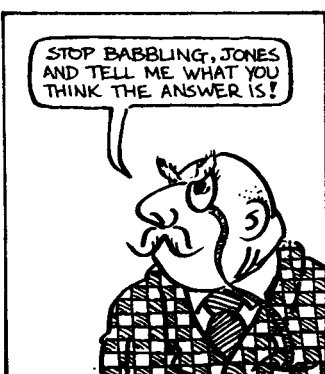
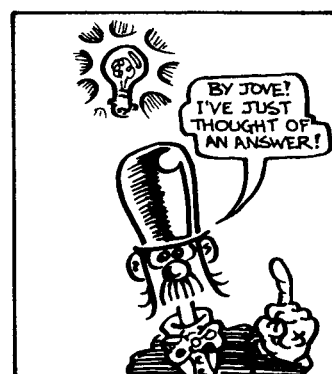
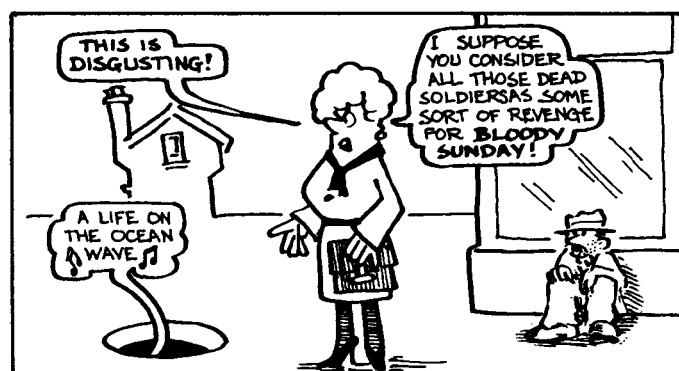
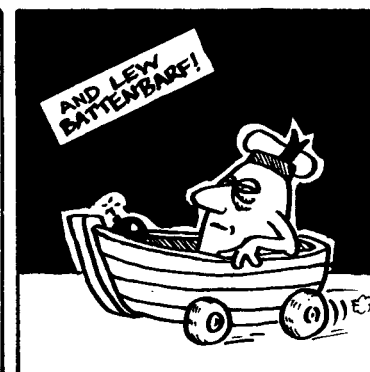
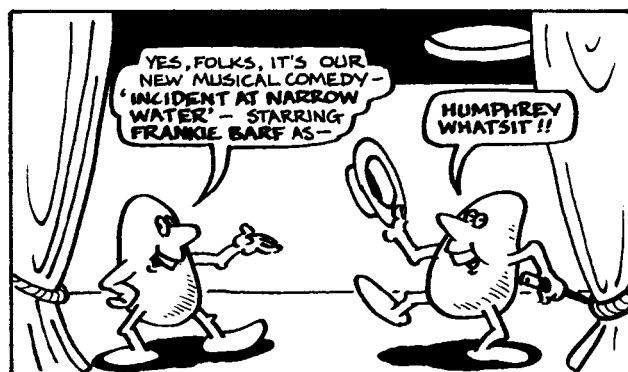
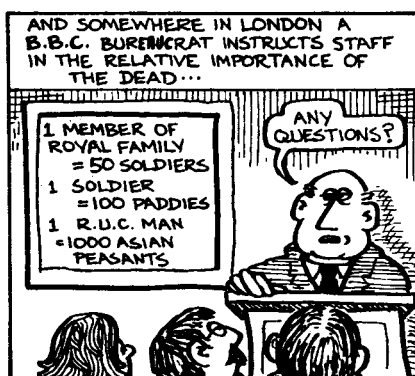
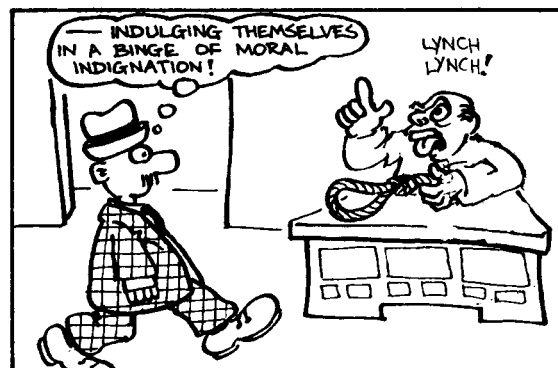
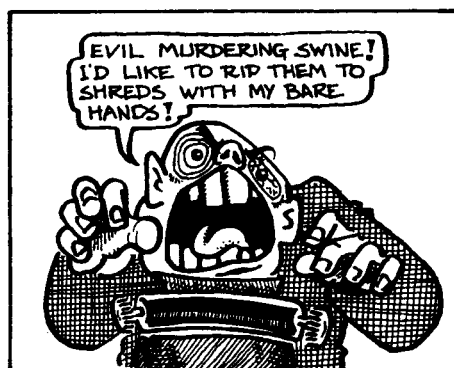
...NOT TO MENTION A FEW OF THE OCCUPANTS!

DID THEY GIVE HIM A HARD TIME AT CASTLEREAGH?

TOO RIGHT! THEY BOOTED HIM AROUND THE ROOM SCREAMING, "WHY DID YOU DO IT?"

THEY KICKED HIM EVEN HARDER WHEN HE SMILED AND REPLIED, "SCUM CLEARANCE!"

I DON'T LIKE MONDAYS

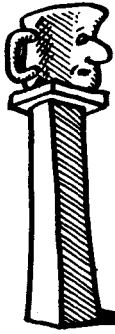


NOTES

BY
CORMAC



THIS IS PAUL O'BROOK AND HE IS DESPONDENT -



WHY SO GLUM,
DUM-DUM?



WHEN I HEAR OF
A BRIT OR A PEELER
BEING WIPED OUT I
NO LONGER GET THE
KICK FROM IT THAT
I USED TO!



I RECOGNISE THE
NECESSITY FOR IT...
... BUT I MISS THE
FEELING OF MALICIOUS
GLEE AND EVIL
GLORING!

IT ISN'T LAID ON
FOR YOUR
ENTERTAINMENT!

IT'S A
WAR, BOZO!
NOT A
SIDESHOW!

A VERY MATURE
ATTITUDE, NO DOUBT!

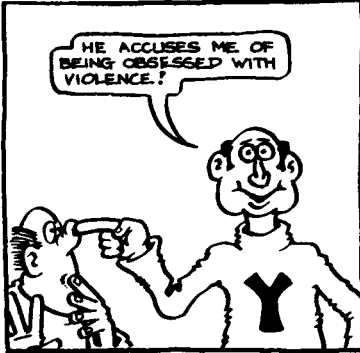
BUT A REVOLUTION
IS THE CARNIVAL OF
THE OPPRESSED!!



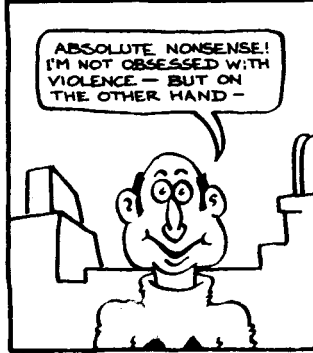
NOES



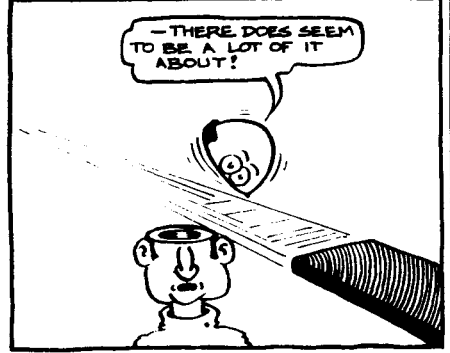
by CORMAC



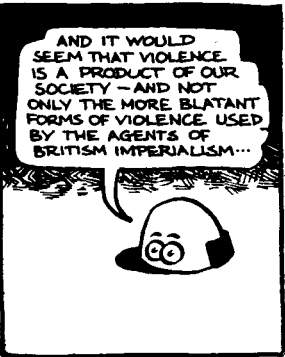
HE ACCUSES ME OF BEING OBSESSED WITH VIOLENCE!



ABSOLUTE NONSENSE! I'M NOT OBSESSED WITH VIOLENCE - BUT ON THE OTHER HAND -



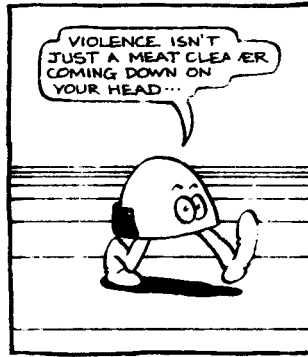
- THERE DOES SEEM TO BE A LOT OF IT ABOUT!



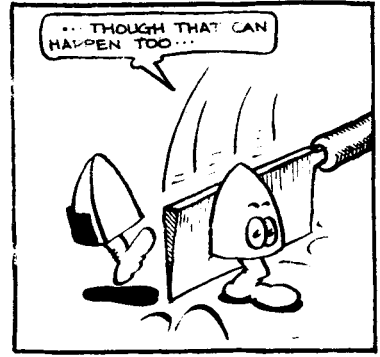
AND IT WOULD SEEM THAT VIOLENCE IS A PRODUCT OF OUR SOCIETY - AND NOT ONLY THE MORE BLATANT FORMS OF VIOLENCE USED BY THE AGENTS OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM...



IF YOU LIVE IN A RAT-INFESTED OVERCROWDED SLUM YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF VIOLENCE, PRACTICED BY SOCIETY!



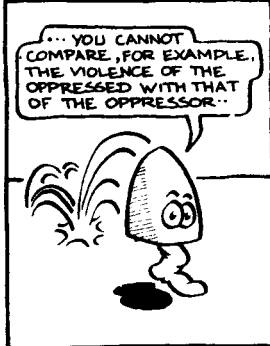
VIOLENCE ISN'T JUST A MEAT CLEARER COMING DOWN ON YOUR HEAD...



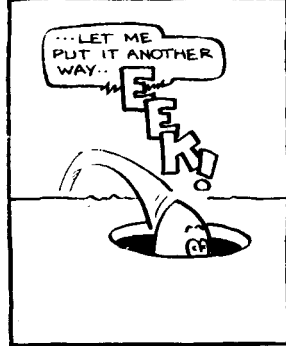
... THOUGH THAT CAN HAPPEN TOO...



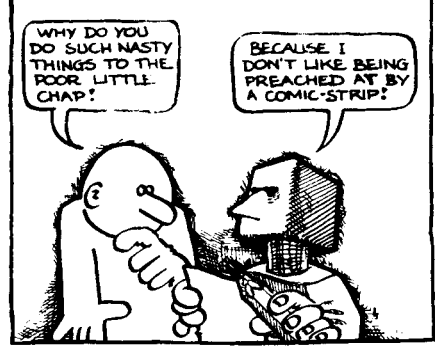
YOU SEE, NO MATTER WHAT SOME SO-CALLED PACIFISTS WOULD TELL YOU, VIOLENCE CANNOT BE DISCUSSED IN THE ABSTRACT...



... YOU CANNOT COMPARE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE VIOLENCE OF THE OPPRESSED WITH THAT OF THE OPPRESSOR...

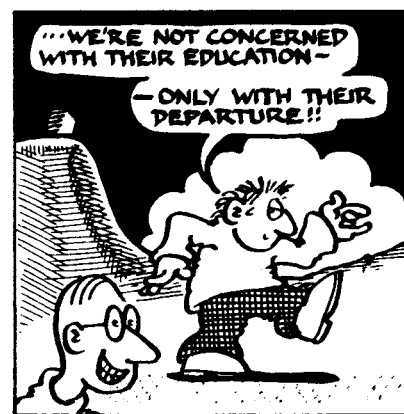
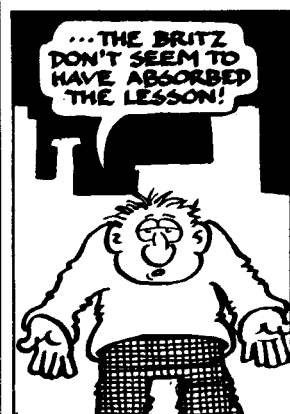


... LET ME PUT IT ANOTHER WAY...

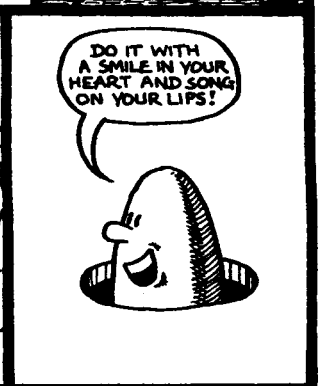
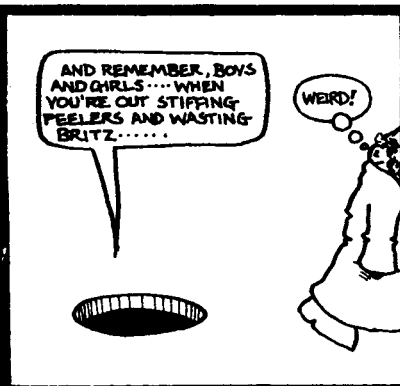
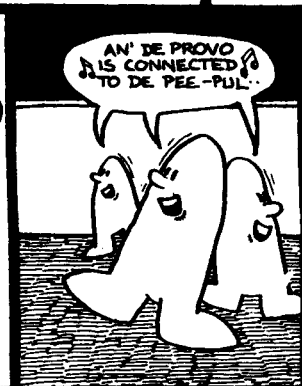
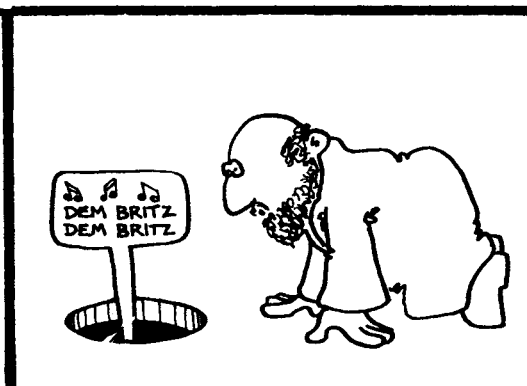
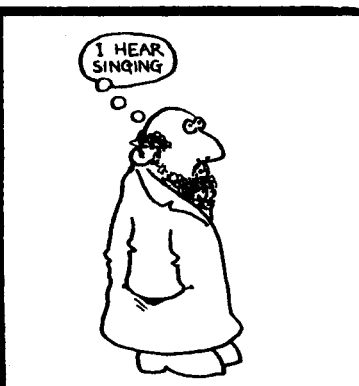
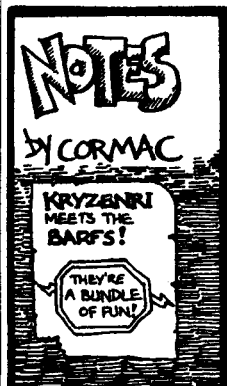


WHY DO YOU DO SUCH NASTY THINGS TO THE POOR LITTLE CHAP?

BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE BEING PREACHED AT BY A COMIC-STRIP!

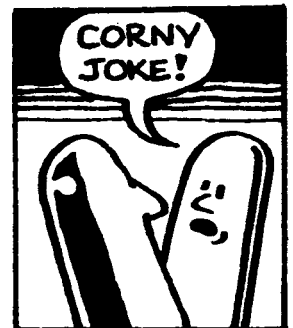
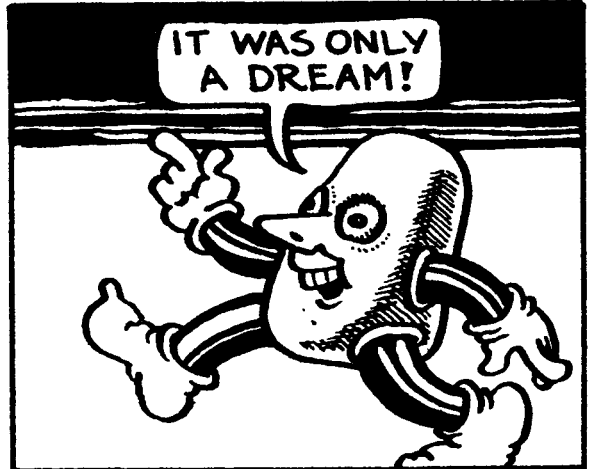
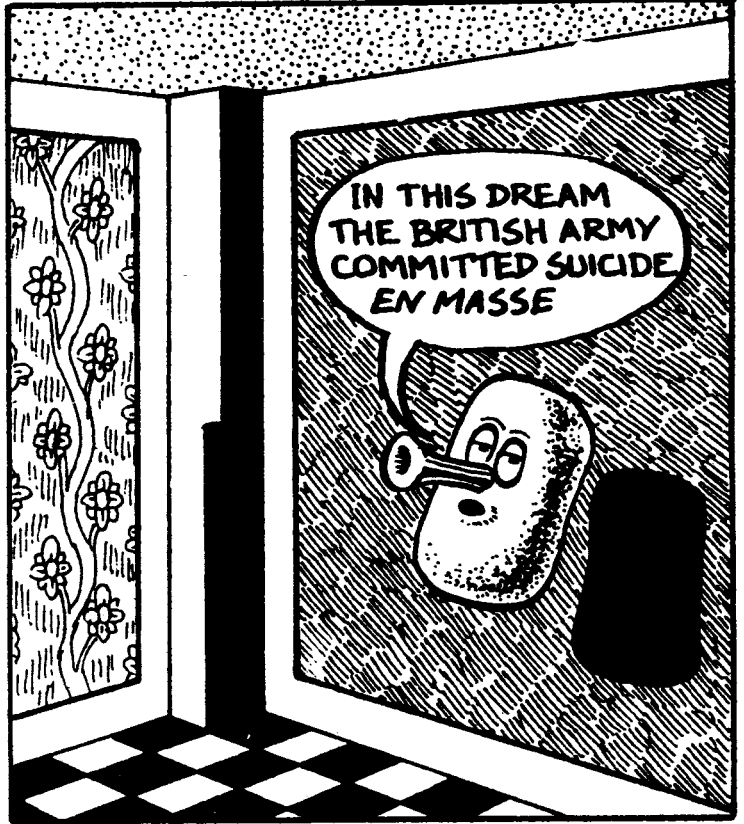


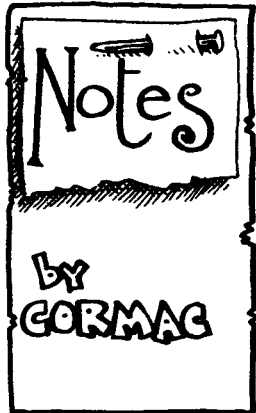
RN 2 Sep 78



Notes by CORMAC

AP/RN 11 Aug 79



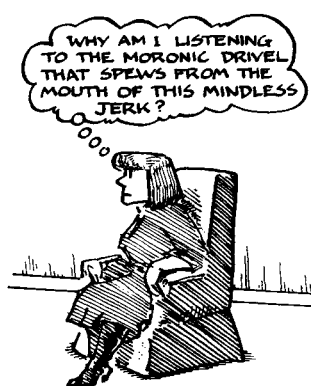
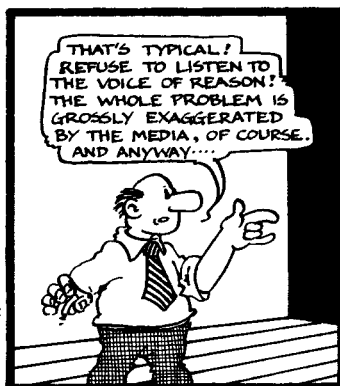
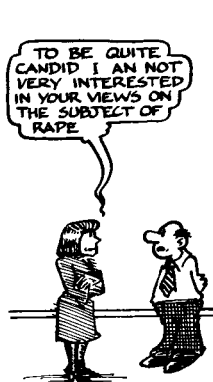


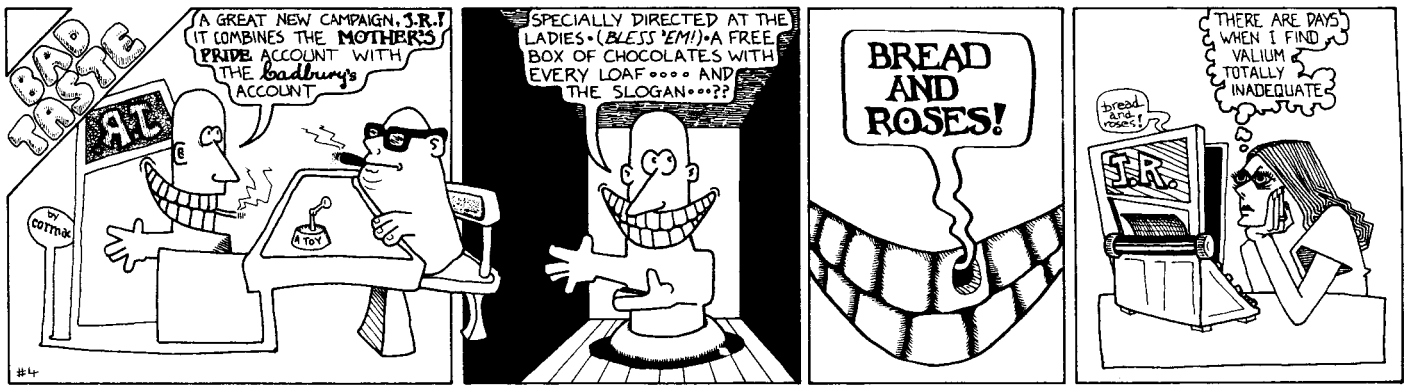


BREAD & ROSES

STRAWS IN THE WIND



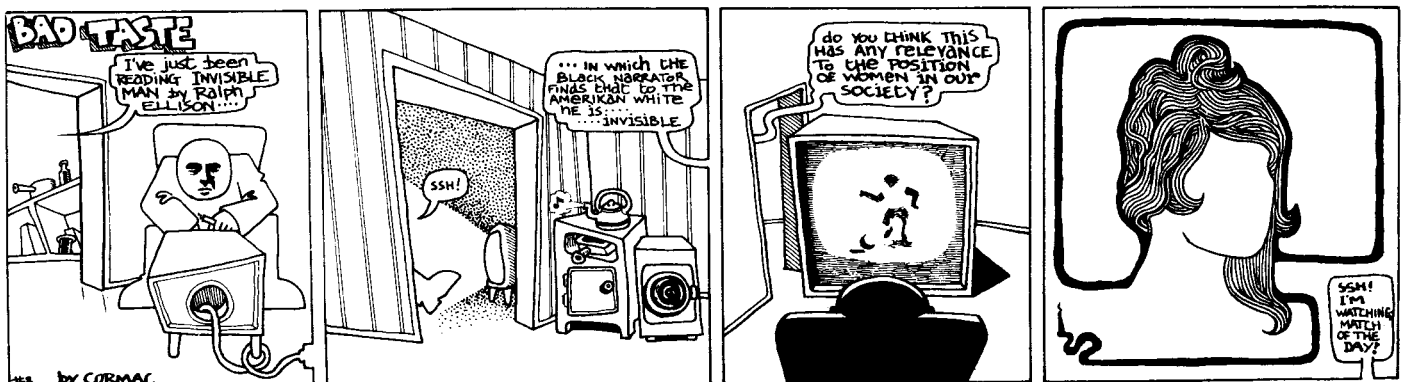


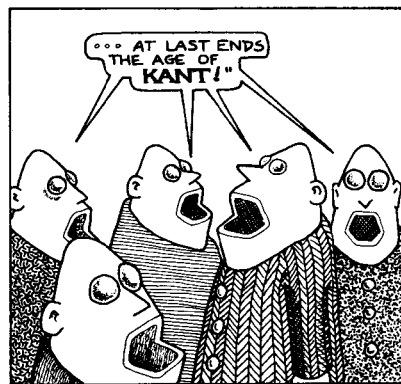
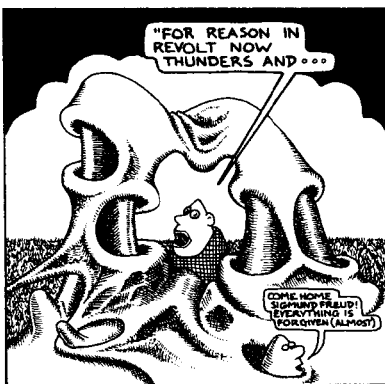


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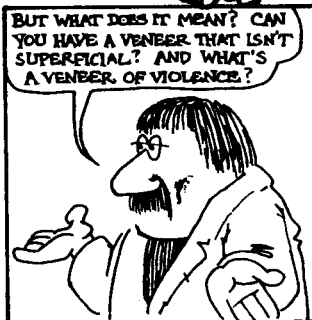
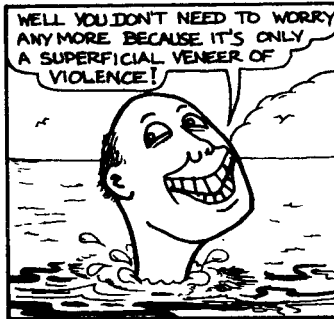
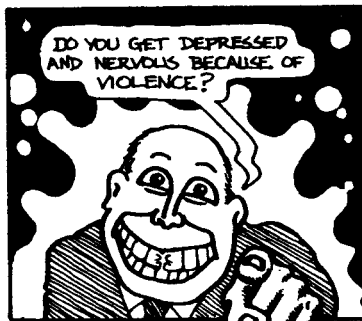
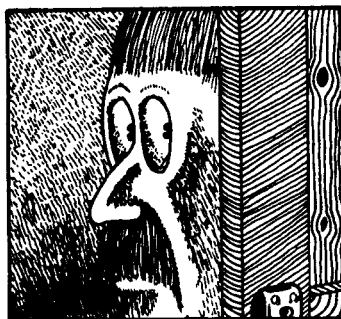
SC





RN 24 June 78

NOTES BY CORMAC



NODES BY KORMAK

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE P.T.A. MAY NOT ALWAYS BE THE LOCAL PARENT/TEACHERS ASSOC.?

DID YOU HEAR THE ONE ABOUT THE IRISHMAN...

WHO TRIED TO GO TO LONDON...

HE WAS HELD FOR FIVE DAYS AND THEN SENT BACK TO BELFAST!

HEY! THIS LOOKS PRETTY WEIRD! WHAT ARE THESE GUYS UP TO?

A GROUP OF LONDON LEFTISTS PRETENDING THAT THEY HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOUR!

BUT I DON'T...

SEE THE JOKE!

NEITHER DID THE IRISHMAN!

AND WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, SUNSHINE?

A SOLDIER?! WITH A RIFLE? ON THE STREETS OF LONDON?!

I'M GOING TO A "TROOPS OUT OF IRELAND" DEMO IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE!

WRONG, SUNSHINE! NO IRISH DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE SQUARE UNLESS YOU'RE A PEACE LOVER — LIKE ME!!

OH DEAR ME! WHAT A PITY! OH MY! SUCH A SHAME! AND NOW I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO BUT GO TO SOME BORING OLD ANTI-FASCIST ROCK CONCERT!

MEANWHILE, IN A PUB SOMEWHERE IN BELFAST...

ALRIGHT! YOU'VE DISCOVERED THE PERFECT STRATEGY FOR MAKING ENGLISH LEFTISTS GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONDITION OF IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

IT'S EASY! WE TOW THE WHOLE ISLAND TO THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA...

AND CALL IT CHILE!!

BAD TASTE

PEOPLE SOMETIMES COMPLAIN ABOUT THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE VERBIAGE AND JARGON WHICH APPEARS IN LEFTIST PAPERS

BUT NEVER, OF COURSE, IN THIS PAPER!

BUT JARGON HAS GIVEN ME SOME OF MY HAPPIEST MOMENTS... LIKE WHEN I FIRST MET A TROTSKYIST...

LISTEN, YOU LITTLE PETIT BOURGEOIS, RUSSIA IS A DEGENERATE WORKERS STATE

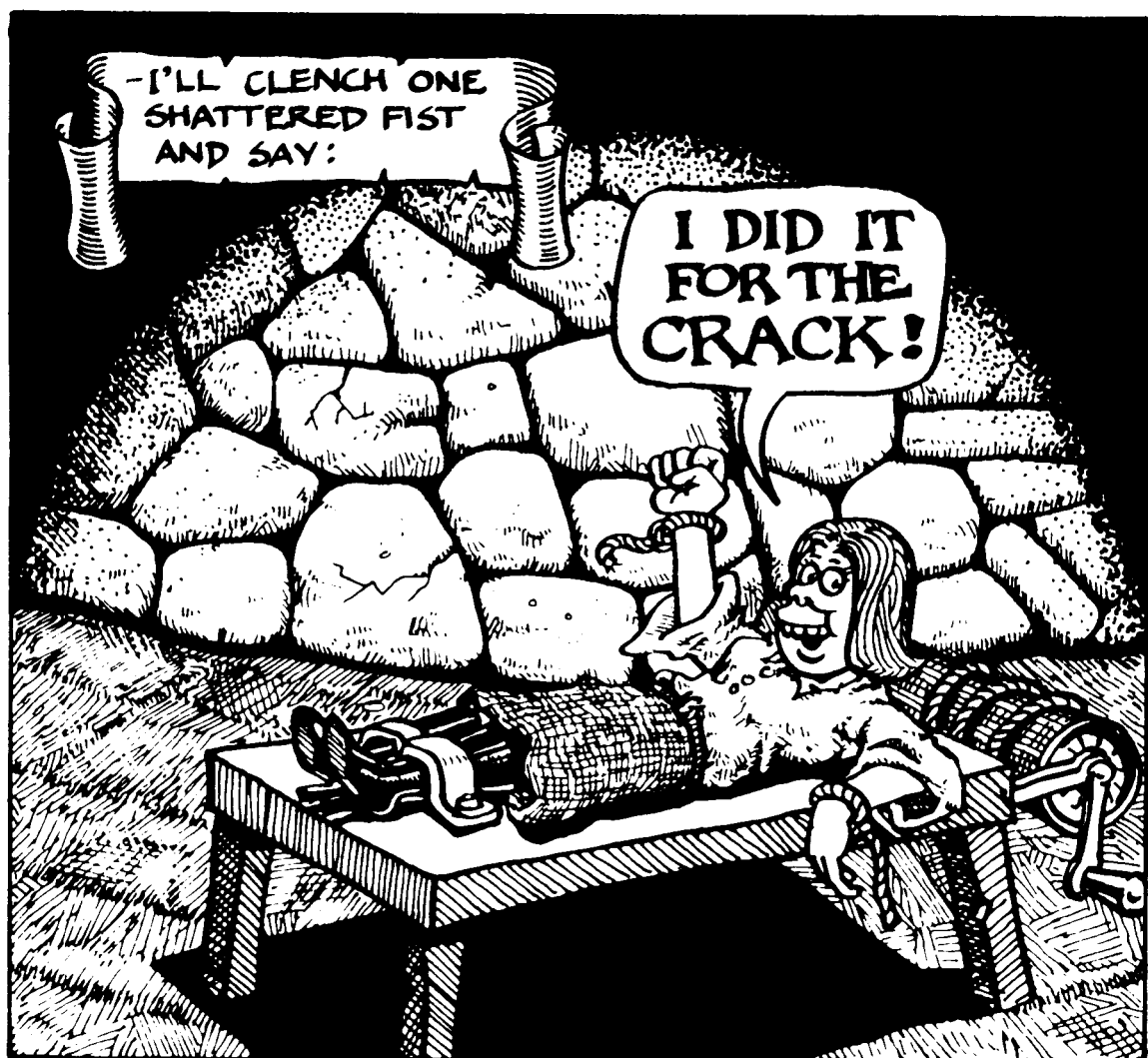
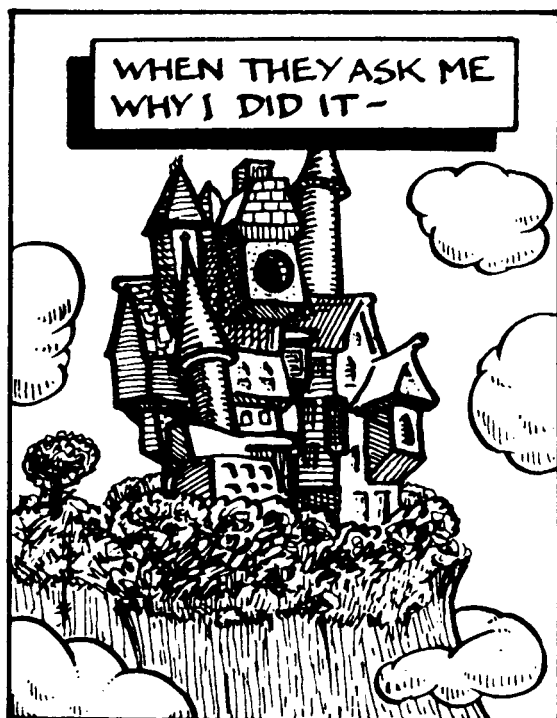
AND SUDDENLY LIFE SEEMED MORE BEAUTIFUL...

FOR A VISION OF A RUSSIAN WORKER, I CROSSED MY "MIND"

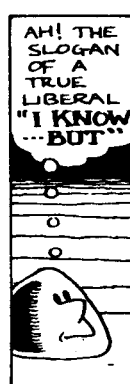
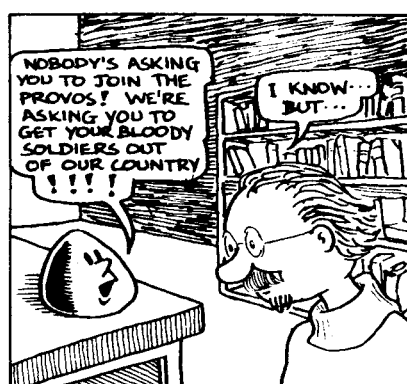
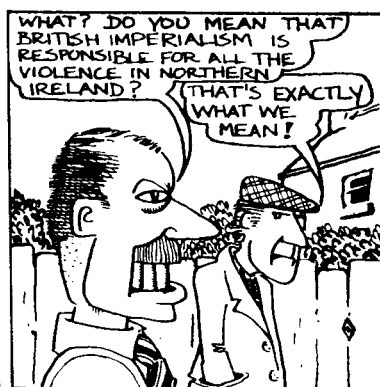
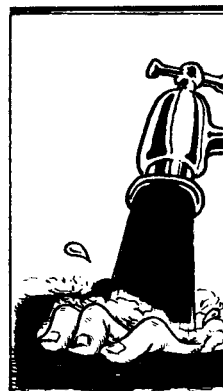
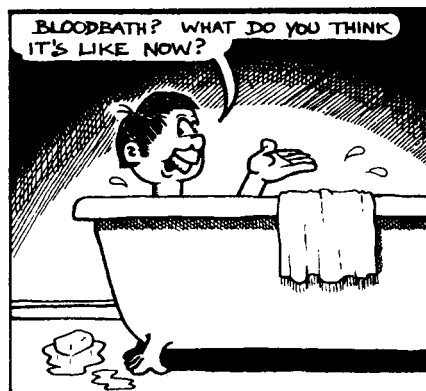
MODKA

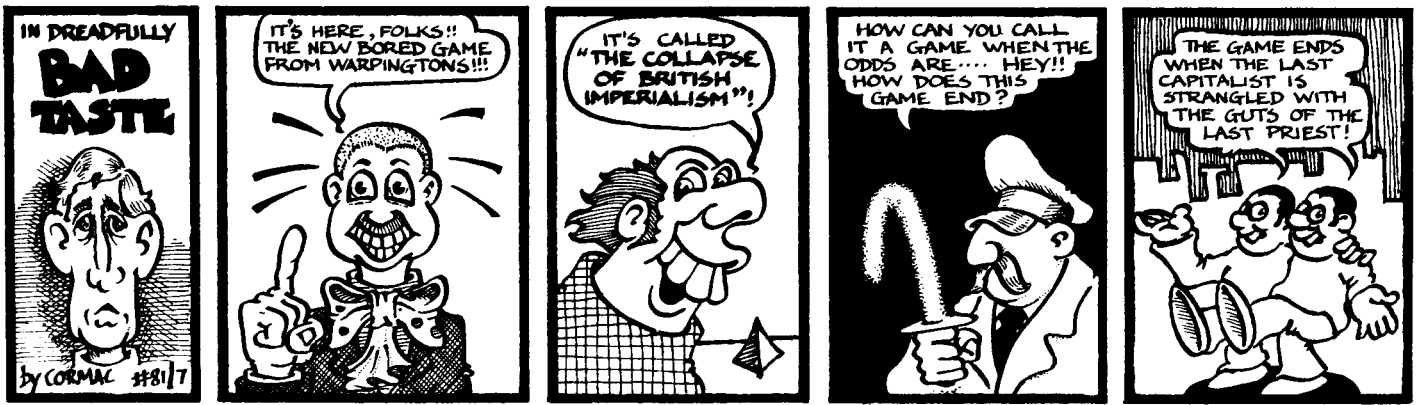
BUMS & TITS

FORTUNATELY IT WAS MUCH LATER IN MY POLITICAL EDUCATION WHEN I MET THE PHRASE DEFORMED WORKERS STATE



For Deirdre and Charlotte, unpublished



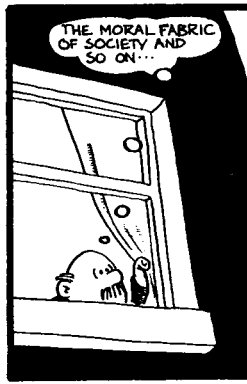
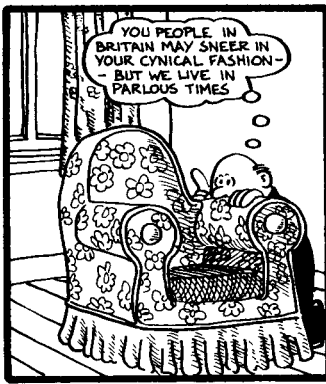


RN 30 July 77



SC 26 Nov 81

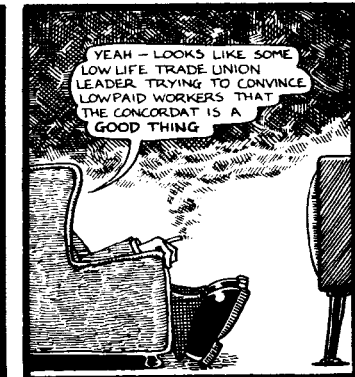
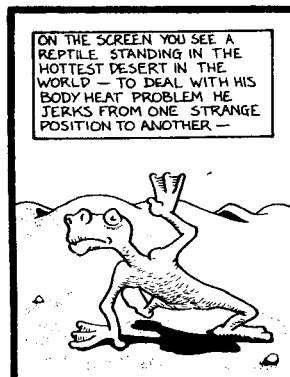
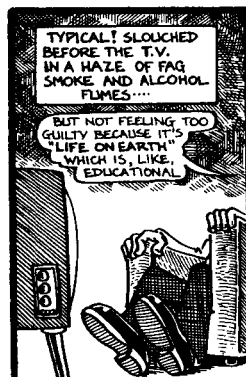
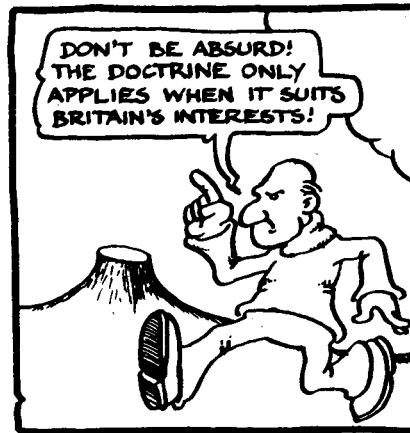




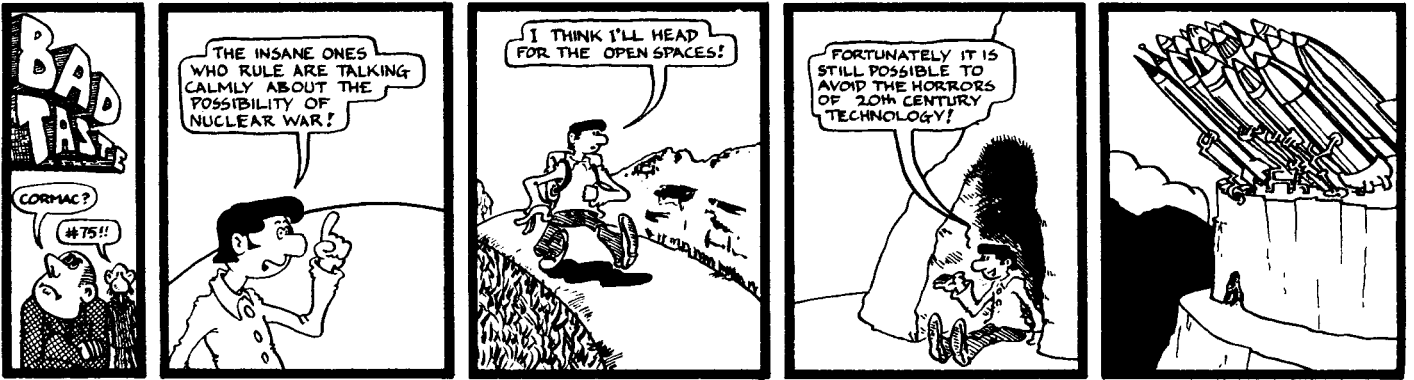
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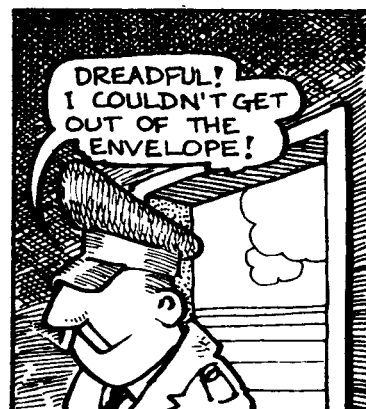
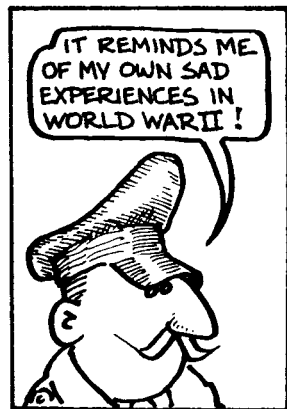
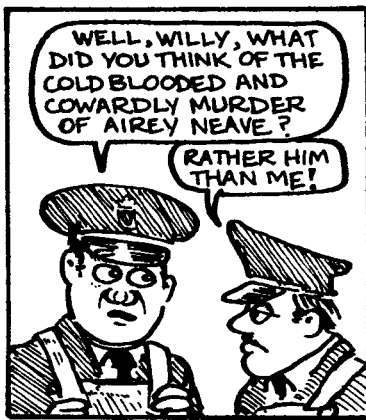


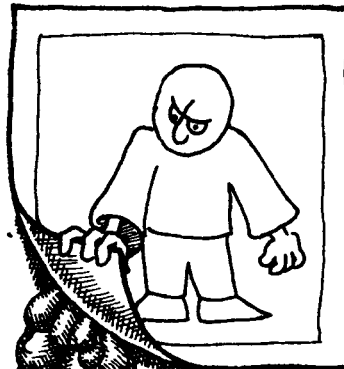
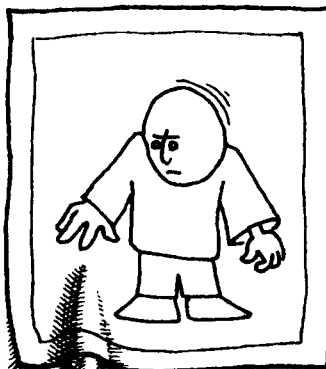
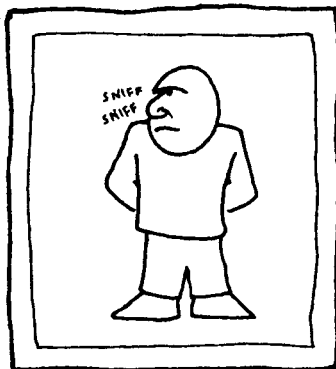
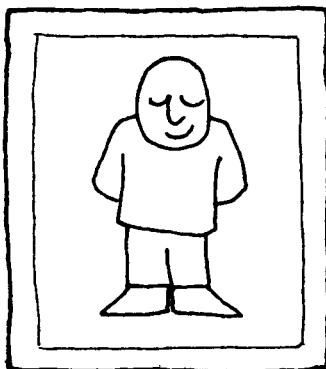
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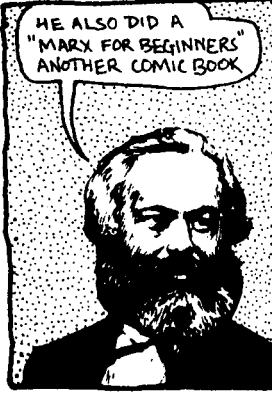
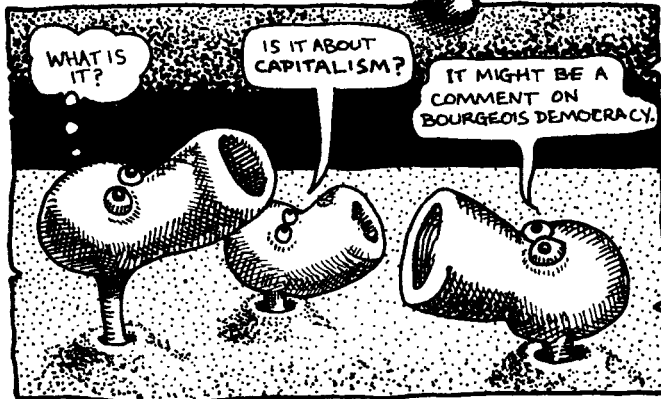
AP/RN 22 Mar 80





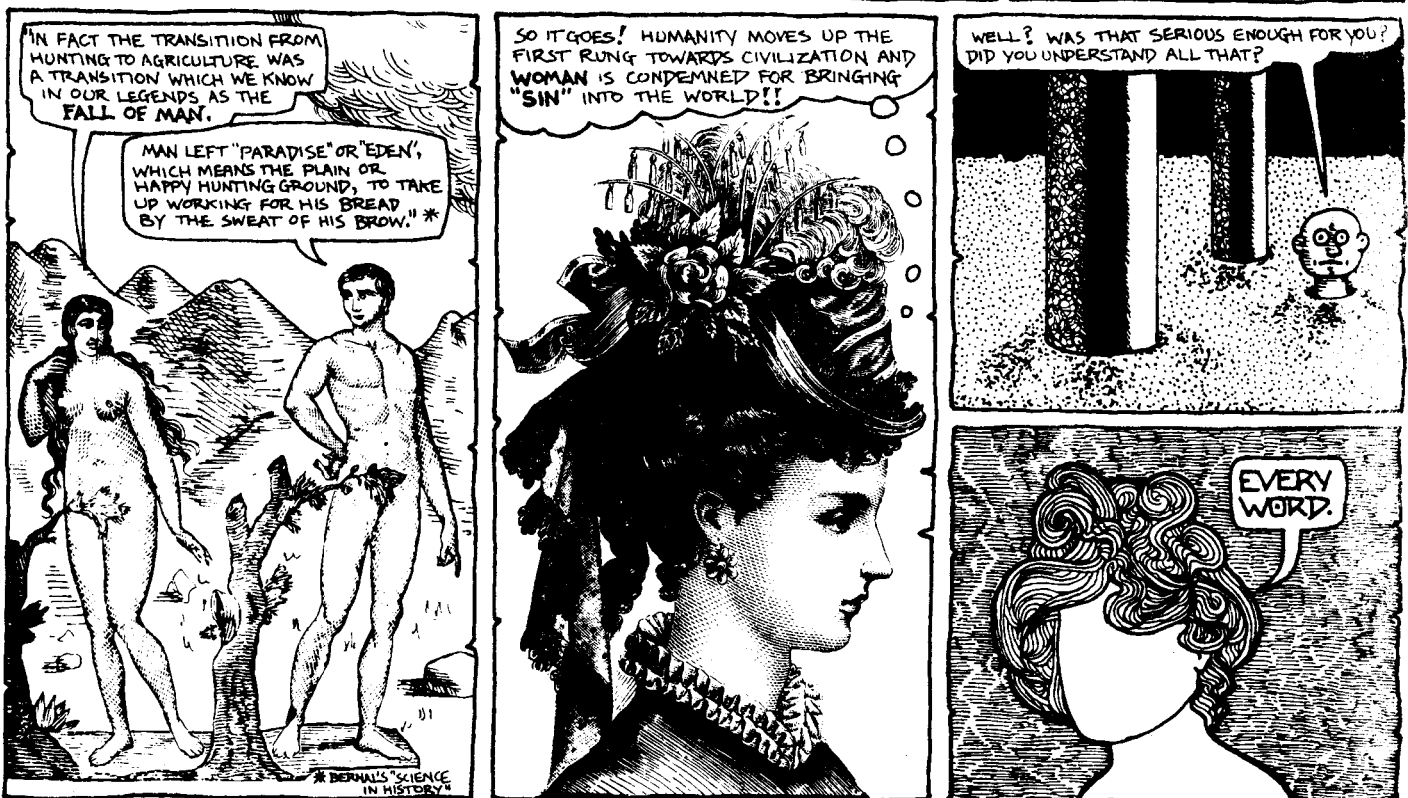
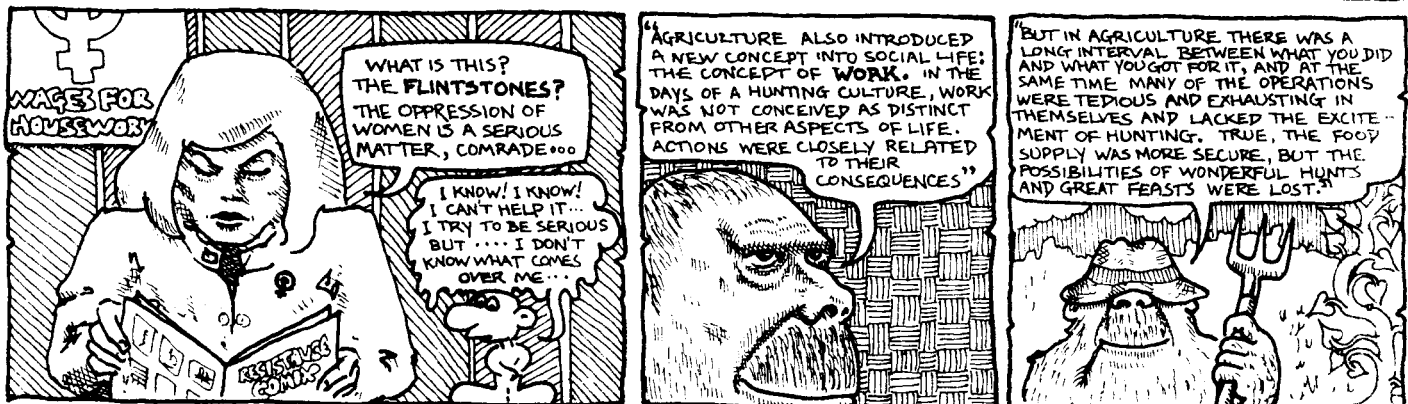
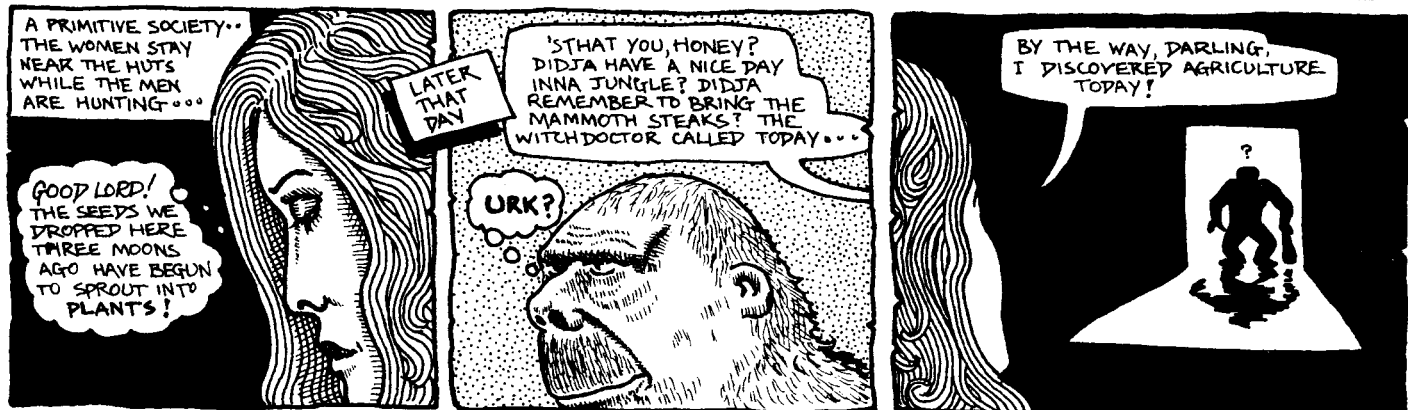


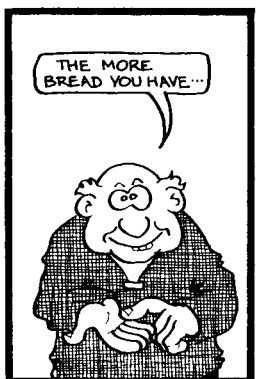
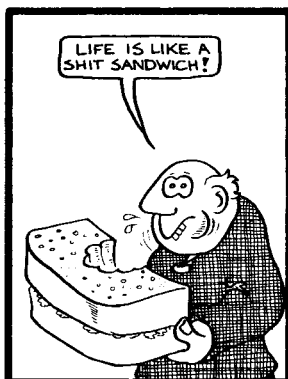
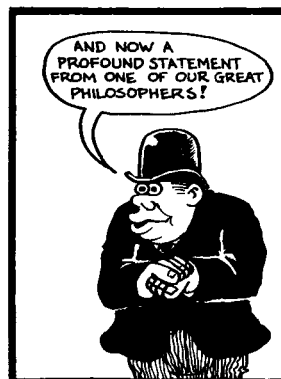
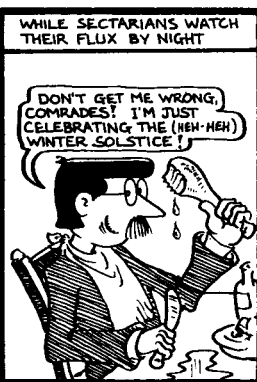
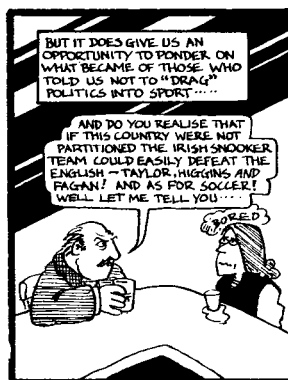
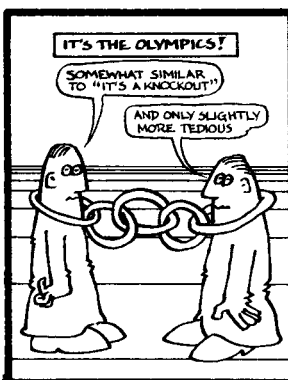
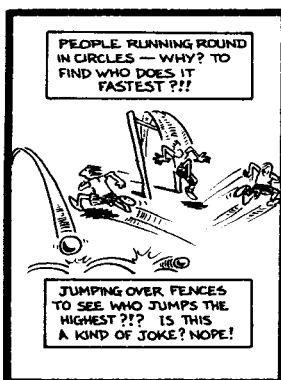
CORMAC PLANS AN EPIC COMIC

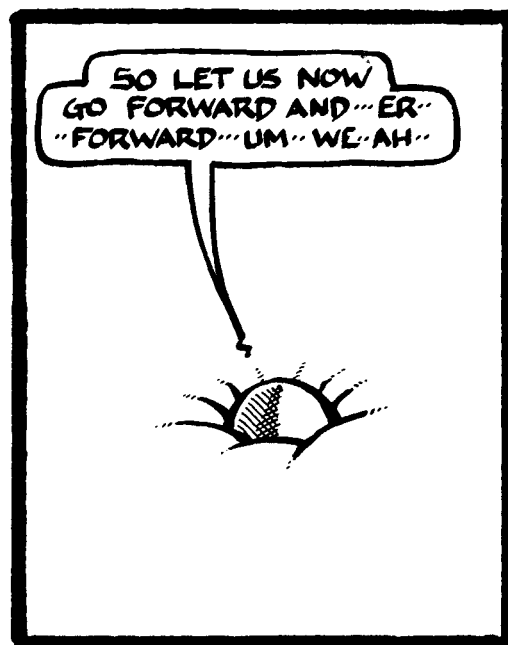


Note from the Editor:-
What he means is this— He thought about doing a comic-strip history of Ireland. He had even decided to do it. Then he sat about in pubs and shebeens, drinking pints of stout and talking about it. (Like many another Belfast man.) Then he discovered that such a book was to be brought out by the Writers + Readers publishing Co-op. Many's a good idea is swilled down in Belfast pubs!









CORMAC STRIKES BACK

Cormac is a radical and very popular Belfast cartoonist. His weekly strip for *An Phoblacht/Republican News* has a large and enthusiastic following in Ireland and among supporters of the Irish cause throughout the world. A socialist republican, he began his career as a cartoonist with the zany occasional paper *Resistance Comix*. He is now much in demand, contributing to various papers including *Socialist Challenge*.

Born and brought up in Belfast, Cormac shares the experiences of the anti-unionist community and depicts the world through their eyes. So his portrayal of the British army, Royal Ulster Constabulary and British politicians is totally at odds with the image purveyed by the British media.

Information on Ireland is very pleased to present the first collection of Cormac's work. We believe it will give British people an essential insight, normally denied them, into the feelings of the anti-unionist community and their experience at the receiving end of British rule.

RESISTANCE CARTOONS FROM THE NORTH OF IRELAND

