

SCREAMING AND CONFUSION

Meanwhile at Free Derry Corner, attempts were being made to get the anti-internment meeting, earlier scheduled for Guildhall Square, under way. The meeting was just about to commence, with Lord Fenner Brockway, M.P., and other speakers on the platform, when the whine of bullets was heard. Over the Bogside the C. S. gas was drifting, amid the thud of rubber bullets, salvos of them. This sound was broken by the sharper cracks of live rounds, whining viciously on their death and injury-dealing way. The immediate reaction of the people at the meeting was to dive full-length on the ground, as above the platform party a number of rounds hit the wall at Free Derry Corner directly over their heads. For minutes the fire continued amid screaming and great confusion. Then came a blessed lull. People got to their feet and made for St. Columb's Wells. But again within a few seconds people hit the ground as more bullets whined about. Eventually, many bent double, got into the comparative safety of the Wells.

BRITISH SNIPER FIRE

Further down the street, at the Rosville Flats, Glenfada Park, and at the rubble barricade opposite the entrance to the high flats, and other open spaces, people were being hit by British sniper fire using high velocity weapons. To the crowd at Free Derry Corner, the stark, stunning realisation of what had really happened began to sink in. Four men came into the Wells carrying another man, wounded in the back as he ran for cover, his face grey and grimacing with the pain. He was put into a car and rushed immediately to the hospital. Then more wounded were carried in. Immediately cars appeared to take them away for hospital attention. Some five wounded were taken away in the space of a few minutes. Other cars came racing along into the Wells, none of them stopping, as they made their way to hospital. Some were already dead before they reached the hospital.

But the full horror of the day's tragic events was happening in the neighborhood of the high flats. As the Saracens and soldiers stormed into the area, — shooting, eye-witnesses said, as they came, — the crowd scattered in all directions. It was then, as people sought shelter, that most of the killings took place. Priests and members of the Knights of Malta (first aid organisation) moved about the area attending to the wounded and administering the Last Rites while bullets whined around them. Sporadic firing continued to echo around the courtyards as the injured were lifted into cars and ambulances. In Rossville Street several bodies lay covered with blankets as Father Edward Daly (now Bishop of Derry) waving his handkerchief in the air, led stretcher-bearers across the street to the waiting ambulances.

Shocked comrades cover another victim with a blanket.





SILENT SHUTTERED DERRY

Within hours of the butchery, a silent, shuttered Derry mourned its dead. Factories, shops, stores, banks and offices all closed down, as likewise in other parts of Ireland, as a nation participated in mute but eloquent protest. Thinner than usual traffic oved down streets peopled only at occasional corners by heavily-armed, jumpily alert British soldiers. It seemed that almost the whole population had voluntarily vacated the open air to grieve in private yet community sorrow. But underneath the calm exterior, resentment, anger, revulsion and shock still blended in a population stunned by the enormity of the city's disaster. Beneath and behind it all there was a determination that the British army of occupation had long overstayed its 'welcome' and that 40,000 nationalists were determined to work for the speedy removal of the troops from the streets of Derry's west bank, and eventually from the whole of Ireland.

● **Paratroopers arrest survivors.**



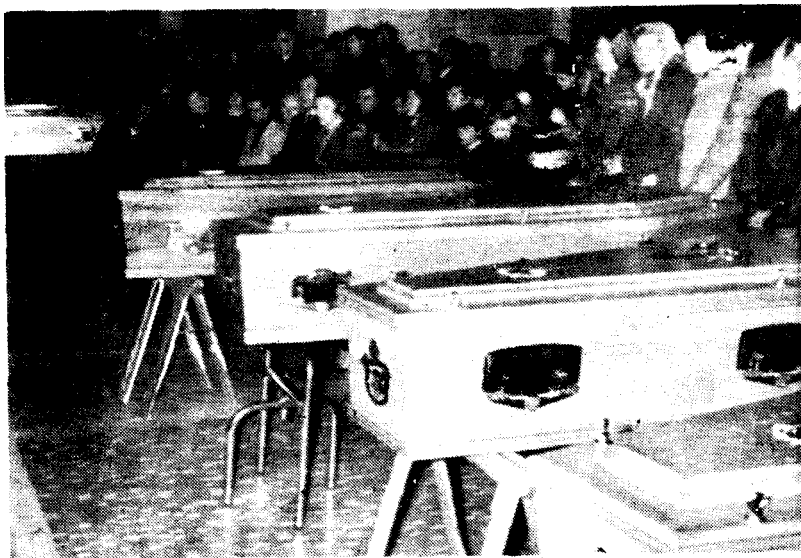


● Wounded man is removed by stretcher bearers.

UNITED IN GRIEF

On the day of the funerals, Wednesday February 2, Ireland was united in grief. St. Mary's Church in the Creggan estate was the centre of world attention for the Poignant hour, while Derry buried its murdered dead. Church and state, people, priests and politicians, joined in a unique ceremony which expressed the emotion of a sorrowing nation. From north and south, from east and west they came, the mourning thousands, to honour the dead, to comfort the bereaved, to pledge by their living presence a humane response to another horrible tragedy in Ireland's long history of imperialist conquest. There were few dry eyes among the congregation. Outside the thronging thousands ignored the bitter cold, and in the driving rain it seemed that even the skies wept, and the heavens could not hold back their tears.





IN MEMORIAM

BLOODY SUNDAY

JANUARY 30th 1972

MICHAEL KELLY (17) an apprentice electrician employed at Maydown. He resided at 9 Dunmore Gardens.

JOHN YOUNG (17), who resided at Westway. He was a salesman and was the youngest of a family of six.

PATRICK DOHERTY (30), Hamilton Street, who for six years before he died was engaged in construction work at Du Pont.

HUGH GILMOUR (17), who resided at Garvan Place.

WILLIAM NASH (19), Dunree Gardens. A dock worker.

JAMES JOSEPH WRAY (23), Drumcliff Ave., who worked at Lec Refrigerators.

WILLIAM McKINNEY (27), of 62 Westway. He was the eldest of a family of ten. A printer employed by the Derry Journal newspaper.

KEVIN Mc ELHINNEY (17), a grocery assistant of 44 Phillip St. He was one of a family of five.

BERNARD McGUIGAN (41), 20 Iniscarn Crescent. An ex-foreman in the B.S.R. he was the father of six.

GERALD McKINNEY, Knockdarra House, Waterside, was the father of eight children, the youngest a baby boy, born on 7th February, 1972.

GERALD DONAGHEY (17), Meenan Square. He was the youngest to die that day.

MICHAEL McDAID (21), a barman who lived in Tyrconnell Street.

JACK DUDDY (17), Central Drive, was a weaver in Thomas French's factory at Springtown. He was one of a family of fifteen.

JOHN JOHNSON, of Marlborough Street, who died on June 16th 1972. He was the first man to be shot on Bloody Sunday.

"Life springs from death; and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations".