

**THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIST)
STANDS 3 CANDIDATES
IN THE ELECTIONS IN THE NORTH OF IRELAND**

**THE COMMUNIST WAY
IS THE ONLY WAY
FOR THE WORKERS
AND SMALL FARMERS
OF ULSTER**

The following statement was released at Press conferences held by the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 22nd, 23rd and 24th of September, 1974, in Dublin, Belfast, Warren Point (South Down) and Dungannon (South Tyrone).

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) has decided to stand three candidates in the north of Ireland for the Westminster elections to be held on October 10th. These elections are for a government which is illegally and forcibly imposed on the people of Ulster by British imperialism and the Party's decision to stand in these elections is by no means a condoning of this imposition by the British monopoly capitalist class.

All bourgeois elections are basically a fraud. They offer no chance of democracy to the working class. The only choice offered to the working class in the elections is that of which political representatives of their exploiters they can have to hold state power for the next five years. The holding of the bourgeois elections in no way challenges the basic injustice of the capitalist system for the majority of the people. Before and after each bourgeois election the positions of the different classes in society remain the same. British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class remain in the position of making huge profits from the labour and land of the Irish people. The working class remain in the position of producing all the wealth in society and receiving in return only the minimum necessary to keep them alive. The small farmers although they themselves are not wage slaves are forced to work extremely hard even to eke out a living in a system where farming is dominated by the big farmers, landlords and the capitalist system. This is clear in Ulster where the successive governments, whether composed of the different sections of the Unionist Party, or of the Unionist Party with either the SDLP or the Alliance Party, have used their time in office to assist and maintain the capitalist system and British imperialist control of the country, even to the extent of harassing and imprisoning those sections of society engaged in struggles against the capitalist system and British imperialism in Ireland.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIST) AND ITS ATTITUDE TO THE BOURGEOIS ELECTION FRAUD

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist), Ireland's only genuine Communist Party, is built on a national basis and has built strong ties with the British working class through the Communist Party of England

(Marxist-Leninist). The revisionist Party of Ireland (in Pembroke Lane), fraudulantly calling itself "communist" is trying to deceive the Irish people that socialism can be achieved through the ballot box, i.e., by making some 'minor changes' in the capitalist state, and by having faith in certain capitalist parties to 'introduce socialism'. The revisionist party actually preaches faith in the Irish Labour Party, the Northern Ireland Labour Party and the Social Democratic and Labour Party, parties which fully support the capitalist system in Ireland and the imperialist intervention and which treacherously pose as part of the working class. The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is totally opposed to these class collaborationist policies upheld by the revisionist party of Ireland.

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The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) neither supports foreign imposed elections nor any bourgeois election fraud, as these solve nothing for the people, but are designed to confuse the people.

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is standing candidates to oppose the anti-working class, anti-Irish propaganda promoted by the British monopoly capitalist class during the elections and to introduce the real issues facing the working class.

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) calls on the people of Ulster, the working class and small farmers to boycott all candidates in the other nine constituencies in Ulster.

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) calls on the workers and small farmers to oppose the bourgeois election fraud and the criminal exploitation of the Irish people by MOUNTING REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES TO OVERTHROW THE INTERNAL CAPITALIST CLASS AND BRITISH IMPERIALIST INTERVENTION IN IRELAND.

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) calls for opposition to the idea that socialism or national independence can be achieved through the ballot box, i.e., by electing the so-called workers parties such as the Labour party in Britain and the NILP or the SDLP in Ireland.

The aspirations of the Irish working class and small farmers for national independence and socialism can only be achieved through revolutionary organisation of the people for the seizure of state power from the internal capitalist class and its imperialist backers, i.e., British imperialism and the various imperialist powers of the EEC.

During the recent period British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class have been deliberately trying to introduce irrelevant discussion on the so-called "Irish dimension" and "power sharing". This has been introduced in order to divert the Irish people away from the real issues. The "Irish dimension" and "power sharing" are issues which have been raised by the bourgeoisie in their struggle to redistribute political power amongst themselves whilst continuing the exploitation of the Irish masses.

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) resolutely denounces the fraud of power sharing and an Irish dimension and calls on the Irish people to develop class struggle against British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class.

The Irish workers and small farmers suffer exploitation from two main sources; from British imperialism which props up the most reactionary sections of the bourgeoisie north and south, by political and military intervention and from the Irish capitalist class itself which acts purely as agents of the foreign monopoly capitalist class to exploit the workers and small farmers and keep them politically suppressed and subjugated to the capitalist system. The Irish capitalist class took on this role when at the beginning of the century there was widescale opposition to British imperialist control of the country. The Irish capitalist class showed their willingness to collude with British imperialism by assisting in the setting up of a new form of political domination. The Dail was set up in the south and Stormont in the north and both of these worked to maintain the economic domination and exploitation of the Irish economy by British imperialism. The entire Irish capitalist class, as represented in the south by Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and the Labour Party, and in the north by the various Unionists, the Alliance Party and the SDLP have

nothing to offer the workers and small farmers except continued exploitation by British imperialism.

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THE WORKERS AND SMALL FARMERS OF ULSTER SUFFER THESE SIX MAIN PROBLEMS

1. Exploitation By Imperialism.

In contrast to what is fraudulently spread by the imperialists themselves, i.e., that they support and subsidise the working class and small farmers of Ulster, the people there actually suffer the burden of exploitation as wage slaves, and suffer this at an especially high rate. According to even the sources of British imperialism itself productivity in the north of Ireland increased much faster than in Britain in 1973 (44% as compared with 25%). Besides this the workers in the north are paid at a lower rate, which raises the profits made by those companies in the north. The annual rate of wages for manual workers in the north is at least 12% lower than in the U.K., and in some industries half of the U.S. rate. The imperialist control of Ireland has brought nothing but exploitation to the Irish people, denying them all control of their labour and land.

2. Exploitation By The Irish Capitalist Class.

The most fascist section of the Irish bourgeoisie, the extreme Unionists, hold power over the workers and small farmers of Ulster. These, like all sections of the bourgeoisie, use the workers and small farmers to gain for themselves more profits from the British imperialists which in fact means from the labours of the working people of Ulster. All the political battles which the Unionist bourgeoisie are in fact waging are solely in order to increase their cut in the profits which British imperialism takes from the people of Ulster, and they are desperately trying to win the workers' and small farmers' backing for their struggles. The Faulknerite sections are interested in maintaining the huge profits they already get from British imperialism. The various other sections of the bourgeoisie as represented by the SDLP and the Alliance Party vie for influence with the working people in order that they can use this to back up their demands to British imperialism for a share in wealth expropriated from the working people. The bourgeoisie in Ulster and the entire bourgeoisie north and south offer nothing to the Irish workers and small farmers but exploitation by the capitalist system and British imperialism.

3. Political Domination By The Alliance of the Irish Capitalist Class With The British Monopoly Capitalist Class.

It is only by colluding together that the British monopoly capitalists and the Irish capitalist class hang onto their positions as exploiters of the Irish people. In 1922, the British monopoly capitalists, faced with opposition once again to their economic domination of Ireland, conspired with the Irish capitalist class to partition Ireland. The Unionist bourgeoisie were fully in support of British imperialist control of Ireland throughout this, because it was with British imperialism that their economic interests lay. The "Home Rule" section of the bourgeoisie as it then stood, divided into those who agreed with the partition and those who opposed it. But both these sections despite some differences became the political arm of British imperialism in Ireland and have used this power to maintain the right of British imperialism to exploit the Irish people, while their positions have gained them the 'right' to a share in this exploitation. British imperialism only granted them this share because there was no other way in which to maintain control. Today all these three original sections of the bourgeoisie, the Unionist, pro-partitionists and anti-partitionists, are totally unified on the basic issues of maintaining the exploitation of the working class and small farmers through the Irish capitalist system and imperialist intervention. They differ only in how to maintain their position and suppress the people, and how much they can gain economically from the people.

The Irish capitalist class won for itself this position by taking leadership of the struggles that were being waged by the masses of the Irish workers and small farmers against British imperialism. During the last 50 years they have not succeeded in establishing themselves as an independent capitalist force with independent markets. Instead they have tied themselves more and more not only to British imperialism, but also to U.S., German and Japanese imperialism. The only solution they offer to the numerous problems in this entirely dependent capitalist economy, for example, unemployment, is to bring in more imperialist companies. The Irish capitalist class got into power

in the south on the basis that they offered genuine independence and in the north on the basis that the maintenance of the link with Britain was in the interests of the working people. These hoaxes are being exposed on a daily basis, as is seen from the rising strike struggles of the Irish working class, the opposition to the enforcement of "solutions" on Ireland by British imperialism as was seen in the strike in Ulster against the enforcement of the Sunningdale Agreement, and the opposition that the British imperialist army is meeting with from all sections of the Irish people, both north and south. Political power in the hands of the British imperialist controlled Irish capitalist class has brought no solutions to the problems of the Irish working class and small farmers. It is this bourgeois political power which is responsible for forcibly maintaining the economic exploitation of the Irish people, and it is therefore against this reactionary political dictatorship of the bourgeoisie that the peoples revolutionary struggles must be directed, in order to overthrow this dictatorship and establish the political power of the workers and small farmers.

4. Sectarian Divisions Manipulated By The Capitalist Class.

The imperialists and the capitalists attempt to divide the workers and small farmers on sectarian grounds. Sectarianism is purely a manoeuvre started by British imperialism and used by the capitalists to maintain their exploitation. It is geared at preventing the Irish workers and small farmers uniting to overthrow the capitalist state and building an independent socialist country. Sectarianism and reactionary nationalism are used in an effort to spread divisions in the ranks of the working class and to try and bring them under the control of the bourgeoisie. This is clear in the attempts now being made by British imperialism and its agents to divide the trade union movement on the basis of religious differences, by having the trade unions in the north break with the trade unions in the south to form an "Ulster Congress of Trade Unions". The Irish Trade Unions (north and south) were formed only through long hard struggles against the forces of British imperialism for the right even to exist. One of the major struggles they engaged in was to have the ICTU recognised in the north. The workers in the north are very badly paid, in some jobs not receiving even as much as their counterparts in the south or in Britain. Splitting the trade union movement as advocated by the British imperialist's agents will only result in the weakening of the trade union movement in the north making it a smaller and less effective force.

5. Reactionary Violence.

All kinds of violence is perpetrated against the workers of Ulster. The cause of this violence is British imperialism and its determination to exploit the Irish people. The principal supporters and executors of this violence apart from the British imperialist army itself is the Irish capitalist class. The main people to suffer from this violence without a shadow of a doubt are the working class and small farmers of Ulster. The only way the violence in Ireland will be stopped is by the overthrow of the capitalist system, and the overthrow of imperialist intervention. This is why workers and small farmers must get organised to overthrow this system. In the course of the struggle to achieve this the workers and small farmers have the right to defend themselves in any way they see fit against the attacks of the capitalist system. On 22nd September, the National Executive of the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) issued a statement giving the call, "The Call for a Home Guard in Ulster can only be Met with the Development of a Workers' and Small Farmers' Guard to Overthrow the Capitalist System". This force will be entirely different from the "Third Force" that is being advocated by the certain sections of the bourgeoisie in Ulster in an attempt to unite the workers and small farmers behind them in defence of the capitalist system and imperialist intervention. A "Workers' and Small Farmers' Guard" as advocated by the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) will have no unity with the bourgeoisie but on the contrary will be based on total opposition to British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class, and will serve only the interests of the workers and small farmers.

6. Attempts to Shift the Economic Crisis Onto the Workers and Small Farmers.

At present the workers and small farmers are being forced to accept the burden of the British imperialists' economic crisis through a decrease in their real wages and an increase in their cost of living. This is rapidly intensifying the exploitation of the people and causing them even further hardship. In order to do this the British monopoly capitalist class and its agents have stepped up their attacks on the trade union movement, trying to restrict the rights of the trades unions, their rights to strike, their rights to picket

and their rights to negotiate. Such attempts also include the attempt to split the Irish trade union movement, with the call from the fascist B. & I. C. C. Backed 'Workers' Association' promoting the setting up an Ulster Congress of Trade Unions. The British Labour Party, since the elections of February 28th have been trying to achieve this through the 'Social Contract', which although officially regaining the workers' right to collective bargaining has in effect attempted to completely limit their actual right to fight to maintain their standard of living by suggesting that the workers should be 'fair' and 'moderate' and 'accept their share of the capitalist crisis'

All the attempts to weaken the trade union movement and shift the crisis onto the workers are totally unjust and must be completely opposed by the working class and small farmers. The present crisis is a result of and caused by the very nature of the capitalist system and the British monopoly capitalist class and the Irish capitalist class are therefore directly responsible for this crisis

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The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is standing candidates in this election on the basis that the COMMUNIST WAY IS THE ONLY WAY FORWARD FOR THE ULSTER WORKERS AND SMALL FARMERS, and the Ulster workers and small farmers should get organised for this right now, strengthen their class unity against all attempts to divide them, reject all allegiance to any section of the capitalist class and develop their revolutionary struggles against capitalism and imperialism. In this the Ulster workers and small farmers need above all to unite with the entire Irish working class and small farmers who share the common bond on class and national exploitation. The closest allies of the Irish people are the British working class who are also engaging in revolutionary struggle against the British monopoly capitalist class.

The programme of the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) for the elections is based on the solution of all the six main problems facing the Ulster workers and small farmers:-

1. thoroughgoing opposition to imperialist domination of the country including the British imperialist army.
2. thoroughgoing opposition to all sections of the capitalist class within Ireland.
3. thoroughgoing opposition to the political power of the Irish capitalist class backed by British imperialism as represented by the Dail, Stormont and the Northern Ireland Assembly or any other institution set up in Ireland by British imperialism and the Irish capitalist class.
4. thoroughgoing opposition to sectarianism, and all attempts to divide the workers and small farmers.
5. thoroughgoing opposition to the violence that the bourgeoisie are foisting on the working people, including the fascist weapon of internment without trial.
6. thoroughgoing opposition to the British monopoly capitalist class together with the Irish capitalist class shifting their economic crisis onto the working class.

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CANDIDATES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIST) IN THE ELECTIONS

Comrade David Vipond, the National Spokesman of the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is standing in the South Down constituency against the fascist Enoch Powell. The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is standing its National Spokesman against Enoch Powell because Enoch Powell represents the most backward and fascist section of the British monopoly capitalist class. Enoch Powell (as the Hitlerite National Front) is openly racist, avowedly anti-working class and anti-communist and has always taken an anti-Irish stand in the British imperialist parliament. Powell, unable to gain much support in Britain, has opportunistically come to Ireland to try and gain some support. Apart from his rabidly sectarian and anti-Irish propaganda, he is well known because his proposals to pull British imperialism out of its crisis are completely geared to shifting that crisis onto the working class. Enoch Powell openly stands for high unemployment, high taxation of the working people, drastic cuts in the standard of living of the workers of Britain and throwing the immigrant workers, in which he includes the Irish, out of Britain. He is interested in smashing the trade union movement to achieve this. All sections of the bourgeoisie are trying to shift their crisis onto the workers, but Enoch Powell and the

National Front are most fascist and anti-working class in this endeavour.

Comrade Peter Kerins is standing in the West Belfast constituency. He is a trade unionist who works in the north of the country and has been an activist with the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) for many years.

Comrade Dr. Alan Evans, a native of Portadown, is contesting the seat in Fermanagh/South Tyrone, where he worked as a doctor for some time.

WORKERS AND SMALL FARMERS, REJECT SECTARIANISM AND ALL THE BOURGEOIS PARTIES AND UNITE TO OVERTHROW THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM AND BRITISH IMPERIALIST INTERVENTION!

DEVELOP THE RESISTANCE AGAINST ALL ATTEMPTS TO FOIST BRITISH IMPERIALISM'S ECONOMIC CRISIS ONTO THE WORKERS AND SMALL FARMERS!

DOWN WITH THE HOAX OF "POWER-SHARING" AND AN "IRISH DIMENSION"!

THE COMMUNIST WAY IS THE ONLY WAY FOR THE ENTIRE WORKING CLASS AND SMALL FARMERS OF IRELAND!

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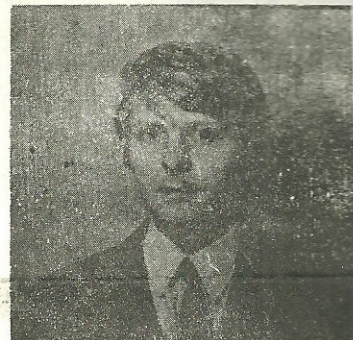
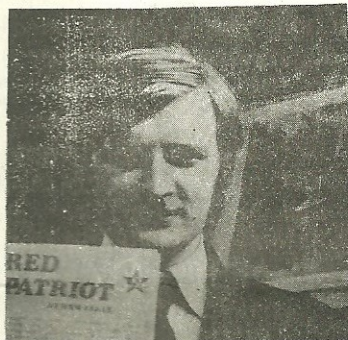
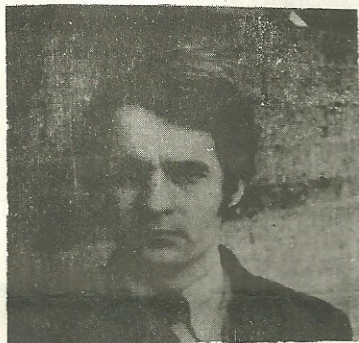
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Comrade David Vipond, well known spokesman of the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is 26 years of age. He works as a post-graduate chemist. Comrade Vipond is Irish and has worked actively in the communist movement for 7 years. He has stood as a candidate for the Party in the Monaghan By-Election and in the Local elections in Dublin. He is presently President of the SRC in Trinity College. He has been arrested, tried and imprisoned on three occasions in Ireland while standing up for the right of the communists and the working class to organise.

Comrade Peter Kerins is 22 years of age. He is a worker and an active trade unionist in the Belfast area. Comrade Kerins has worked in the communist movement in Ireland for 5 years and was active in organising non-unionised workers in Dublin. He has been harassed and arrested by the British Imperialist army in the north of Ireland on two occasions while standing up for the right to disseminate communist literature.

Comrade Dr. Alan Evans is 28 years of age and has been a doctor of medicine for a number of years. Born in Portadown, he is Irish and has been active in the communist movement in Ireland for 6 years. He worked for a period as a doctor in the South Tyrone area.