

# Eyes of World Fastened on Northern Ireland

From Courier-Journal Services

A tumultuous week, leadened by tragedy, filled with charges and countercharges, causing international repercussions, reviving the fervor for a united Ireland and threatening to erupt into even more violence was capped off by Sunday's Catholic march in Newry, again in defiance of the ban on parades.

The historical differences between the Irish and British which once again have grown into open conflict in recent years exploded into fresh violence when the Catholics first broke the edict against demonstrations Sunday, Jan. 30, in Londonderry.

While the circumstances of the shootings that day are clouded by disputation, the fact remains that 13 Irish civilians were killed by British soldiers. This has led to vows of vengeance by Irish Catholics, the recall of the Republic of Ireland ambassador from London, a gathering pressure on Britain to withdraw its troops from Ulster, and a portent of future holocaust.

Vengeance has already been served with the attack on the British Embassy in Dublin.

Greater involvement by the

Republic of Ireland government was evidenced by the recall of its ambassador from London and even more by the appearance of its foreign minister, Dr. Patrick J. Hillery, in New York City to deliver a message to United Nations Secretary-General Waldheim. At a press conference, Hillery called for moral pressure on Great Britain to give up its "lunatic policies" in Ulster.

He is believed to ask Waldheim to make an appeal to Britain to discontinue its present Irish policy. He said he did not ask for any kind of United Nations force in Ulster but pointed out that in 1969 he did make such a request and it was blocked by Britain.

Britain, meanwhile, has appointed Lord John Wedgery, its chief justice, to conduct a one-man independent judicial inquiry into the Londonderry shootings. It will take time and it is evident that the emotion unleashed by the shootings will cause new "Londonderrys" before the inquiry is final.

The feelings of many Irish was expressed by Gerard Fitt, a leading figure among Ulster Catholics, who told Commons that the slayings had "dramatically changed the whole political outlook" in Ireland.

"Until Sunday," he said, "I regarded myself as a man of moderation, I have consistently condemned violence, I condemn the violence meted out to the people of Derry last Sunday."

He said there was an "up-surge of national fervor" throughout all of Ireland that had not existed "since our country was so unnaturally partitioned" in 1921.

He called for the withdrawal of British troops from Ulster, saying they were "no longer welcome."

The Vatican has reacted. Cardinal Jean Villot, secretary of state, sent a cable to Cardinal William Conway, Catholic primate of all Ireland, expressing Pope Paul's "profound sadness" over the tragedy.

There were other repercussions. Rioting racked Catholic neighborhoods in Belfast and new violence broke out in Londonderry, with troops the target of rocks and bottles thrown



**Crosses For The Dead**

Carrying 13 white crosses, symbolic of civilians who died in Londonderry during a clash with British soldiers, demonstrators march down a street in Dungiven, Northern Ireland. The killings set off a new wave of terror in Ulster and thousands of Roman Catholics refused to report for work in protest. Britain has established an inquiry board to look into the incident. (RNS)

by youths. The London apartment of Bernadette Devlin, a leading spokesman for Ulster Catholics, was wrecked by intruders. This seemed to be in retaliation for Miss Devlin's physical attack on British home secretary, Reginald Maudling, during parliamentary debate on Monday.

The London government took exception to the pronouncements by the Republic of Ireland. Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home, said in Commons that "I must give the Irish government warning that

if they were to maintain the attitude they have taken . . . they could cause the most serious and lasting damage to the relationship between our two countries."

The Irish prime minister, John Lynch, told an emergency session of the Dublin parliament that he strongly condemns the burning of the British Embassy. Calm, at least temporarily, seemed to return to the Dublin scene.

As for withdrawing their troops from Northern Ireland,

British ministers have taken the tack that it would amount to a Pontius Pilate gesture, according to a New York Times dispatch. They argue that Britain eventually would be condemned for irresponsibility if such withdrawal were followed by civil war.

Their views were substantiated by the official British action of sending 500 more soldiers to Ulster in time for Sunday's demonstrations in Newry. That brings the number of troops in the province to 15,000.

Cardinal William Conway, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, has demanded that the British government institute an immediate and "impartial" public inquiry into the violence that left 13 civilians dead and others injured in Londonderry Northern Ireland. (RNS)



An injured man receives attention during violence which erupted when British troops stormed a Roman Catholic rally in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. The youth at upper left has been identified as Michael McDavid, 17, who was later killed. (RNS)

## Pray We Are on God's Side, Nixon Asks as Trip Nears

Washington, D.C. — Commenting on his forthcoming journeys to Peking and Moscow, President Nixon asked an audience here to "primarily pray that this nation under God will, in the person of its President, to the best of our ability be on God's side."

The chief executive made this request to nearly 3,000 persons assembled for the 20th annual National Prayer Breakfast. He earlier referred to a reply President Lincoln made to a question concerning whether God was on the side of the North or South in the Civil War. Nixon said Lincoln's response was that he was more concerned that the nation be on God's side.

The President said 1972 is a "year of opportunity for peace such as America has never had in its whole history." Mentioning a recent talk with the new secretary general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Joseph M.A.H. Luns, he said

Luns told him that the U.S., after World War II, "could have imposed its will on any nation in the world, but did not do so."

"Instead," Nixon said, "we helped our former enemies until today they are our major competitors in the free world, and we helped our allies and all underdeveloped countries . . ."

"Now we shouldn't brag about that," he said, "in terms that make the other nations inferior," nor should "we stand here and expect that they say 'thank you' . . . because it was our way to show our dedication for what our nation has stood for from the beginning: 'liberty and justice for all,' not just in America, but in all of the world."

Referring to his upcoming trips to China and Russia, Nixon reiterated that they won't bring "instant peace" because there are "great differences" between the governments of the two nations . . .

Communist nations and the U.S.

The differences have not developed because "we don't know them and they don't know us, but because we do know them and they us," he said. The "philosophic gulf" between the two other nations and America is "enormous and will continue," he added.

The "pragmatic reason" of realizing that "we must learn either to live together or die together" is what brings the nations to the point where for the first time in history, a President will visit the heads of the two Communist countries in their capitals.

But he cautioned that peace in the world won't come until "we have peace among ourselves," within the borders of this country. "Then perhaps we can play a role, imperfect though it be, to bring a period of peace between the great na-