

We the Republican prisoners being held in isolation in Maghaberry, would like to send solidarity greetings to all of our comrades, friends and families, and further update our supporters on our continuing protest.

As you know, we are into our fifth month of this degrading and inhumane dirty protest, and as such we have lost all so called privileges and are locked in our cell twenty-three hours a day, with only a walk around a small yard to break the monotony of the long days.

We are still refusing to cut or shave our hair and only wash when we have visits, which the prison authorities continue to force us to take within the general population of the Gaol, even though we have been subjected to abuse and threats from Loyalist elements.

As a collective, we have considered refusing visits under these conditions but after much consideration and advice from our friends, families and comrades, we believe it is not the way to get our message across to the people on the outside and still remain hopeful that there are other ways to let our voices be heard, without subjecting our families to the pain of being unable to visit us.

Despite the treatment from the prison authorities we are all in good form and keep each other's spirits high and we received a big morale boost last week when Gavin Coyle was moved downstairs with his comrades.

To the people from all over Ireland, Scotland, America, Australia, Canada and Europe who have sent us cards and letters of support, ourselves and the lads in Roe 4 would like to say a big thanks and extend our sincerest gratitude for the kindness that has been shown to us.

Commanding Officer- Republican POWs Maghaberry SSU.