



The Special Powers Act Northern Ireland

Under the Act the authorities are empowered to:

- (1) Arrest without warrant;
- (2) Imprison without charge or trial and deny recourse to *habeus corpus* or a court of law;
- (3) Enter and search homes without warrant, and with force, at any hours of day or night;
- (4) Declare a curfew and prohibit meetings, assemblies (including fairs and markets) and processions;
- (5) Permit punishment by flogging;
- (6) Deny claim to a trial by jury;
- (7) Arrest persons it is desired to examine as witnesses, forcibly detain them and compel them to answer questions, under penalties, even if answers may incriminate them. Such a person is guilty of an offence if he refuses to be sworn or answer a question;
- (8) Do any act involving interference with the rights of private property;
- (9) Prevent access of relatives or legal advisers to a person imprisoned without trial;
- (10) Prohibit the holding of an inquest after a prisoner's death;
- (11) Arrest a person who "by word of mouth" spreads false reports or makes false statements;
- (12) Prohibit the circulation of any newspaper;
- (13) Prohibit the possession of any film or gramophone record;
- (14) Arrest a person who does anything "calculated to be prejudicial to the preservation of peace or maintenance of order in Northern Ireland and not specifically provided for in the regulations."

**HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
FROM FASCIST ULSTER**
