

# MP Ken attacks UK press over Irish coverage



● ABOVE: Ken Livingstone looks on as Euro MP Stan Newens keeps a rapt Irish Forum audience listening to his words on Ireland last Thursday night.

**KEN Livingstone** MP launched a blistering attack on the way the British press is tackling the current Irish peace initiative.

Speaking to a packed Camden Irish Forum in Murray Street, Camden Town, the Labour maverick turned the tables on the media who have often used him as a whipping post over his controversial stance on Sinn Fein.

"It's lamentable the way the British press has covered the present initiative in stark contrast to the objective reporting in San Francisco which I witnessed over another Irish matter.

"The Hume/Adams proposals are the best hope for peace in years. It will be a tragedy if the Tory voting deal with the

Unionists wrecks it.

"The last 25 years of IRA violence are explained by the 50 years of injustice that went before.

"The whole of Ireland would be in a better economic condition if it were united. We have a major task of education and that is what we should be doing."

## Harrassment

Fiery Ken then gave way to Euro MP Stan Newens who called for the repealing of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

He said: "Labour is committed to repealing this act which means, statistics-wise, that 9 per cent of those arrested under the Act actually get released without charge - which is therefore nothing

short of harrassment.

"If there are issues which should be dealt with in Europe, bring them to my attention.

"I want to do constructive work for the Irish community"