

Dermot Nally Papers

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MEETING BETWEEN THE TAOISEACH AND THE PRIME MINISTER
DOWNING STREET, 21 JUNE 1991

The Prime Minister and the Taoiseach exchanged views on current issues in the European Community including the progress to date in the Inter-Governmental Conferences on Economic and Monetary Union and Political Union and the issues likely to arise at the European Council in Luxembourg next week which they will both be attending.

They also discussed a range of other international issues and the Prime Minister spoke of his expectations for the G7 Summit of the main industrial nations which he will host in London next month.

The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister expressed their satisfaction that the round-table talks process, launched on 26 March, is now under way. They fully support this ambitious endeavour to achieve a new beginning for relationships within Northern Ireland, within the island of Ireland and between the peoples of these islands.

The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister are convinced that there is now an historic opportunity to achieve real progress. They believe that the talks have an inherent capacity to achieve a far-reaching outcome agreed by all the participants. They emphasised the commitment of the two Governments to ensure that the full potential of this process is realised.

They condemned the abhorrent and futile violence which has destroyed so many lives in Northern Ireland; they share an absolute conviction that violence can never provide a solution and that the only way forward is through political dialogue.

The Taoiseach and the Prime Minister agreed that they would meet again in the Autumn for a more indepth discussion.