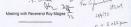
Dermot Nally Papers

UCDA P254/39



At the Taciosach's request, I met with Revd. Roy Magne, Prestlyrerin Minister at Unchandlad, (ast Ital Mon Hords) (blowing has appearance on TV. suggesting that this was a critical time for Northern Ireland and that there was an opportunity for peace. He was reported subsequency as having unged the Loysist paramittaries, with whom he is in regular contact as a peacemaker, to desist from their attacks on SQLP counciliors.

He confirmed it as his view that the Provisional IRA were seriously looking for peace, and he said he was involved in some efforts at dialogue between the UDA and the IRA. He himself had been working on some broad principles, the two key ones being:

"We respect the right of coexistence between all who abide by the law, regardless of religious, cultural, national, or political aspirations"

"We defend the right of anyone to seek constitutional change by peaceful and legitimate means".

There was another principle, which would command less agreement, that the political future of Northern Ireland was for the people of Northern Ireland themselves without outside interference:

He said he felt good progress was being made, until the joint Hume-Adams statement on Saturday. He also felt that many of the Unionist politicians were very deliberately fanning the flames and trying to incite the loyalist paramilitaries into action.

I conveyed to him three messages:

The Taciseach and the Irish Government are totally committed to peace, which would be to the benefit of the whole island, but particularly to the Unionist community, which had borne much of the violence of the last 20 years.

- The Irish Government would not be party to any attempt to secure a permanent cossation of violence in exchange, for example, for joint authority/sovereignty, or a guerantee of a united reland. The political sturor of homen treated could not be predetermined in this station. A most exchange of the properties of the predetermined in this station, are designed to such the station.
- The principle of consent was absolutely accepted by the Government and by all the parties in the South. The agreement and the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Heard was sensited to any such major constitutional charge. (I stated that in my were the Anglo-Ireit's Agreement, which essentially given the Ireit Government on consultative voice, did not fail froit this category, but in any case any new Agreement would have to have Unionsity participation).

The final point he made was a plea that the Irish Government in its public statements pay more attention to the Unionist consensus as well as Nationalist once.

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29 September, 1993.

9.5. I subsequently had lunch with Aban Magnins, Leader of the SDLP group, at Befast DCy council. He said inherdors statement had reflected annoyance at being left in complete ignorance or what was going on, rather than disagreement with the process. In his view, the joint statement reflected internal party pressures but also he had been given to understand by Hump. positive signals from John Major.