

10 June 1996

Sir Patrick Mayhew MP QC
Northern Ireland Office
Stormont Castle

Dear *Secretary of State*

Thank you for your letter dated 7 June which I received late last night.

Your reference to attempts to arrange meetings last weekend are misleading and no doubt calculated to mislead.

We met last Monday in London. At that meeting you did not volunteer any information concerning the proposed agenda for the opening plenary session. Towards the end of that meeting I had to ask you a direct question about the agenda. You then hurriedly read out an agenda. You did give me a copy. Nonetheless it was clear to me, and I told you in clear terms, that the agenda was unacceptable and in direct conflict with the Intergovernmental Communique of 28 February. My letter of 7 June cannot have come as a surprise.

You will also recall that at no time did you consult with us concerning the purported procedural material included in the statement of 6 June. I note your agreement with my comment to you last week that that statement merely contains proposals which the participants will consider later today. I cannot see those proposals being accepted without extensive changes.

Sincerely

David Trimble

David Trimble MP