

MINUTES OF THE TALKS HELD ON MONDAY, 10TH JUNE 1996

1ST SESSION (COMMENCED 2.12 P.M.)

IN ATTENDANCE ON BEHALF OF THE ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY

DAVID TRIMBLE M.P. , RT HON JOHN TAYLOR M.P., CLLR REG EMPEY,  
KEN MAGINNIS M.P. , JEFFREY DONALDSON , PETER WEIR

David Trimble immediately raised the procedural point of how the agenda today would proceed .

Sir Patrick Mayhew responded that after the introductory remarks by the two Prime Ministers there would be a short adjournment. There would then be a discussion on arrangements for the chairmanship of the talks , its function and selection ,and other matters pertaining to the opening of the talks ,including the agenda and any other matters that any party wished to raise.

Ian Paisley then pointed out that the Act which had brought these talks into existence allowed only Sir Patrick Mayhew to issue invitations .He was amazed to have been invited by Paddy Mayhew and Dick Spring.He didn't recognise the right of Dick Spring, under the law to issue invitations.Was John Bruton thus speaking as a co-chairman or co-sponsor of the talks ,or as leader of the Irish delegation. He was alarmed by Dick Spring's statements on his own position.

Patrick Mayhew responded that he alone issued the invitations and he welcomed John Bruton as head of the Irish delegation.

Robert McCartney asked for clarification on a point.He asked that in line with the ground rules the attempt to impose the chairman on the talks was no longer on the agenda . George Mitchell would have to be selected by the delegates and not the two Governments. The draft agenda submitted was just thus a set of proposals , and was merely the same as any other set of proposals submitted by any party.

Patrick Mayhew responded that the purpose was to enlarge democratic accountability.There would be no attempt to impose anything at all .It was up to this body to decide who had what functions and what the agenda would be.

Peter Robinson raised the question of the position of the media and when they would be leaving .

Patrick Mayhew responded that they would be leaving as soon as the Prime Minister began to speak .

Sir Patrick Mayhew then welcomed the two PrimeMinisters .

The talks were then addressed by John Major and then John Bruton.

Speeches in full are enclosed .

The session adjourned for 15 minutes at 3.03 P.M. .