

CONFIDENTIAL

Understanding of Meeting with SDLP and APNI

At a tri-lateral meeting which took place on 25 November the **UUP** outlined in some detail why it considered it was essential to begin the **Disarmament and Verification Process** by putting in place, immediately, a **Commission designate**.

The **SDLP** emphasised its desire to move into the **3-strand Process** in parallel to and concurrent with any agreement on the UUP proposal. The issue of a **Liaison Committee** was discussed.

The **APNI** indicated its willingness to progress on this basis.

The perceived role of a **Disarmament and Verification Commission (designate)** was outlined by the UUP at the request of the SDLP.

In response, it was suggested by the UUP that:-

(a) It considered that a Commission Designate was required so that necessary preparations to facilitate movement into proactive mode, as soon as possible after the passage of enabling legislation through both Houses of Parliament, could be undertaken.

(b) The *appointment of the* C.D. would signal the commencement of a process, would provide continuity of activity and would constitute a Confidence Building Measure(CBM).

(c) The C.D. would address the issue of **Schemes and Regulations** which could be put in place as soon as the enabling legislation was enacted.

(d) Practical matters which would be defined included.....

Logistics

Communication networks

Headquarters and office requirements

Arrangements for liaison with police and security services (access to information)

Technical personnel requirements

Technical equipment

Liaison/reporting with/to governments

Interaction with Talks Liaison sub-committee

restricted
The role of a Liaison Committee would be ~~limited~~ by the limited technical knowledge that such a group would have but that there were some issues which could be undertaken. There would be an opportunity in the initial stages to.....

Discuss the methodology of disarmament

Agree categories of weaponry which would be understood by both parties

Develop a simple liaison strategy by which progress could be indicated

The commencement of the disarmament track was essential to the twin-track approach. It was considered that the three parties present understood what each required of the other and that they would liaise informally in attempting to define an agreed way forward.

Ken Maginnis
26 November, 1996.