



13 November 1996

# ***decommissioning***

PAPER 3

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Principles and Proposals

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The DUP offer the following principles and proposals as an indivisible package the adoption of which is necessary to address the issue of decommissioning.

1. Those involved in or associated with paramilitary groups actively engaged in, planning or threatening terrorist activity shall not be invited to enter the negotiating process.
2. Those involved in or associated with paramilitary groups that were formerly engaged in terrorist activity should not be invited to enter the negotiating process unless and until they have renounced terrorism.
3. Those involved in or associated with paramilitary groups that were formerly engaged in terrorist activity should not be invited to enter the negotiating process unless and until they have proclaimed a complete, permanent and universal cessation of violence.
4. Those involved in or associated with paramilitary groups that were formerly engaged in terrorist activity should not be invited to enter the negotiating process unless and until they have demonstrated, to the satisfaction of other delegations, that they are committed to the use of exclusively peaceful means of effecting political change.
5. Holding a stockpile of illegal weaponry is inconsistent with an adherence to the principles of democracy.
6. Holding a stockpile of illegal weaponry constitutes an actual or implied threat to other delegations that recourse to violence will result from a refusal to accept proposals submitted by the possessors of illegal weaponry.
7. A participating delegation holding a stockpile of illegal weaponry would represent a bar to achieving *a level playing field* in the negotiations.



8. Those holding a stockpile of illegal weaponry must commit themselves to a detailed programme and timetable for complete decommissioning in order to remain in or enter the talks process.
9. Those holding a stockpile of illegal weaponry must, as tangible evidence of the start of a process, commence decommissioning by handing over a meaningful proportion of their weaponry in order to remain in the talks process.
10. In the absence of mutuality the hand-over of the remainder of a stockpile of illegal weaponry would be frozen.
11. IRA/Sinn Fein, if otherwise entitled to join the talks process, must decommission its illegal weaponry according to the programme of decommissioning before entering the talks process.
12. If otherwise entitled to join the talks process, both of the component parts of the republican movement must publicly subscribe to the letter and spirit of the six Mitchell principles.
13. If, and as soon as, IRA/Sinn Fein fulfils the obligations outlined above, the paramilitary groups associated with those presently in the talks process will then meet such commitments under the decommissioning programme as were frozen as a result of the mutuality clause.
14. The programme of decommissioning shall not be linked to political concessions being granted to the possessors of illegal weaponry.
15. A failure, on the part of any group holding illegal weaponry, to undertake or honour its commitment to the programme of decommissioning shall, with immediate effect result in such a group being excluded from the talks process.
16. A failure, on the part of any group holding illegal weaponry, to undertake or honour its commitment to the programme of decommissioning shall, with immediate effect, be met by an all-out, determined and robust drive by the security forces in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic, to discover and remove from circulation all illegal weaponry.

17. The 3-stranded negotiations shall not commence until all decommissioning requirements have been met.