To replace current Rule 1:

- 1. The negotiations to which these rules of procedure refer and whose conduct they are intended to govern are, as provided for by Section 2(1) of the Northern Ireland (Entry to Negotiations, etc) Act 1996, the negotiations referred to in Command Paper 3232 (Ground Rules for Substantive All-Party Negotiations) published on 16 April 1996.
- 1A. The conduct of these negotiations is exclusively a matter for those involved in the negotiations. These rules of procedure are adopted for that purpose as the single set of rules of procedure for the conduct of the negotiations. These rules can only be amended by agreement, in accordance with the decision-making process outlined in paragraphs 23 through 28, following discussion in the Business Committee.

On the first of these, the British Government noted the existing provisions for confidentiality. We pointed out that a situation for more likely to scise than that

public criticism and would have to have the means of defending their own dignity in soc circumstances.

On the second, the two Governments rasisted projected Unionist efforts to greate that negotiations would be governed solely by the draft rules of procedure. The British Government suggested that this was both happeropriate and consecusary. They put forward a possible consequence formastation but, when it became clear that this would a

Discussion then turned to a further four DUP amendments, tabled in conjunction with the

violence requirement being judged "from time to time", was body debated and spacked the

by Paisley and McCarmey to reopen the status question. In a private compensation with the compensation with the compensation and the status question.

observed that numbers were now approaching the point where the states of the gestions were to