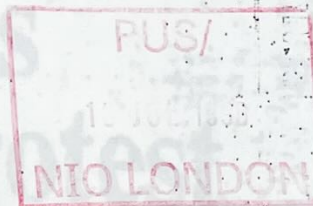


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July 17, 1996

Dick Spring TD
Tánaiste and Minister for
Foreign Affairs

The Rt Hon Sir Patrick Mayhew QC MP
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Gentlemen:

We write to you in accordance with the provisions of the proposed rule of procedure which, as drafted by the two Governments, obliges the Independent Chairmen to "refer ... to the two Governments for their consideration and, having due regard to the views of the participants, appropriate action ... if, during the negotiations, a formal representation is made that a participant is no longer entitled to participate in the negotiations on the grounds that they have demonstrably dishonoured the principles of democracy and non violence."

During the course of bilateral meetings we conducted with the parties on July 16, three such representations were made. The SDLP and the Alliance Party contend that the UUP and the DUP violated the principles set forth above. The UUP contends that the SDLP violated the principles. A newspaper clipping that the UUP submitted to support its contention is enclosed.

We informed each of the parties that made the representations that we would take the course outlined in paragraph one of this letter.

Sincerely,

John de Chastelain

George J. Mitchell

Harri Holkeri

PS/SofS (LrB)
PS/M. Anwar (LrB)
PS/Sir J. Wheeler (LrB)
PS/HUS (LrB)
PS/Sir D. Fell

Mr Thomas *
Mr Hill
Mr Stephen
Mr Leach
Mr Bell

* Grateful for
urgent advice in
view of IAC
tomorrow p.m.

General John de Chastelain

Senator George J. Mitchell

Prime Minister Harri Holkeri

Nationalists unite in protest

IN UNPRECEDENTED scenes of Nationalist unity thousands of people took to the streets of Derry over the weekend to protest at the RUC's u-turn at Drumcree.

The protests began on Thursday night with a march through the city attended by more than 5,000 people. At the end of this march, the organisers called for support for a vigil on Friday morning if the Orange march was forced through the Ormeau Road.

Their expectations were exceeded on a massive scale when between two to three thousand people assembled at the Diamond to protest the next day. The mood of the protesters was grim and a badly organised march took place to Waterside Place.

In scenes of nationalist unity unparalleled for many years, Mark Durkan of the SDLP, spoke from the same platform as Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness.

Cdr. Durkan said the last thing most people wanted was to be involved in a march on July 12. But he felt that the "anger, hurt and betrayal" at the "Drumcree choke down" had to be clearly shown.

He expressed disgust at what he described as British Secretary of State Patrick Mayhew's "gallingly inappropriate" remarks on Thursday evening when he said: "For God's sake cheer up".

He asked: "After witnessing the scenes at Garvaghy Road and the Lower Ormeau are we cheered up?"

Traditional route

There was some backing from the crowd in reference to the SDLP's move to sack the Mayor, Richard Dallas, but Cdr. Durkan appealed to the crowd: "Don't let our anger follow the traditional route of the Orangemen want it to, and fight with each other. Let's take it out on those responsible for what happened, the Orange Order and the British government."

Predicting that the Unionists would live to regret the legacy of their so-called victory Cdr. Durkan said: "We shouldn't save them by doing anything that takes the

Martin McGuinness told the crowd: "This is a continuation of events. Nationalist Ireland said that it was time to negotiate but the leaders of Unionism and the British government refused to engage. What happened at Garvaghy Road is a microcosm of that refusal."

He added: "We have two choices, we can go down the road to disaster or we can go for a negotiated settlement. We declare ourselves in favour of a negotiated settlement."

Mr. McGuinness also told the Apprentice Boys: "You are not welcome and you have no right to come across that bridge without the permission of the overwhelming majority in this city."

The Sinn Féin leader was pessimistic about the future: "It is not too late to turn back, but I don't hold out much hope."

Add that to religious uprisings, he added: "We are off our knees and we are going to stay off our knees. But let me tell the British government something now. If you hit one nationalist, be it at Garvaghy, Bellefry, Lower Ormeau or wherever, you hit us all."

Black flag march

Following the death of Desmond McShane on Friday night a black flag march was planned for Saturday at 7 p.m.

That evening, more than 10,000 people gathered at Free Derry Corner and set off on a route through the town centre past the RUC barracks at Strand Road. The mood of the marchers was somber and many carried black flags as a mark of respect for Mr. McShane. Local pubs and clubs had closed at 6 p.m. and the town centre was empty but for the marchers.

When the march reached the barracks soldiers quickly created a cordon in front of a dozen military vehicles stationed in a nearby carpark to avoid a confrontation.

Many observers complained of a provocative display by the British Army who continually revved their engines as the march passed.

The large march eventually stopped at the top in Little James Street where Mr. McShane was killed and black flags were laid alongside floral tributes.

As the crowd filed Waterside Place they observed a minutes silence in memory of Mr. McShane.

Addressing the crowd, Martin McGuinness said: "After 25 years the British Army are still here and they are still killing citizens of this town. This is a damning indictment of British rule in Ireland."

Rape of community

Accusing ministers and the British government of refusing to engage in negotiations, he said: "This refusal shows their determination to turn us into second class citizens. What happened in Garvaghy, the Lower Ormeau and in Derry is nothing short of the rape of an entire community."

He added: "Business asked me were the young people angry? I told them, the young people are angry, the old people are angry and the entire nationalist community in Ireland is angry."

He made an impassioned plea for an end to the rioting. He said that he had been to the hospital to visit some of the injured and that they were a horrific sight. Pointing out that 90% of the injuries inflicted by plastic bullets were head injuries, the Sinn Féin leader asked young people not to allow themselves to become targets for the RUC and the British Army.

Mr. McGuinness concluded by saying that the responsibility for what had happened lay squarely at the feet of John Major, Ian Paisley and David Trimble.

Biggest march for years

Sunday night meanwhile saw marches from all across the city converge on the

Griffith Square. In one of the biggest marches seen in the city in many years between fifteen to twenty thousand people from all walks of life marched to register their protest.

The march began with a letter being read from the wife of Desmond McShane in which she appealed for an end to the rioting and destruction.

The crowd was then addressed by Sinn Féin's Mary Halls who said the nationalist people would never accept a second class citizenship and she repeated the call for the Apprentice Boys to seek permission of the people of Derry before they marched.

Arif Rodgers, of the SDLP, described the past week as one of shame and disgrace for nationalists and the British government.

She added: "The past week has proved three things: Unmist support for law and order is conditional, they support it as long as they get what they want. There is one law for nationalists and one law for unionists. And the RUC is incapable of treating nationalists with justice and impartiality."

Mr. John Gormley, of the Lower Ormeau Residents Group, told the crowd that David Trimble was right when he said that the North owed a debt to the Orange Order. He said: "In one sense he was right because at least the myth that Orange marches are cultural events has been crushed."

"The parades are no different because of the inherently sectarian nature of the Orange Order itself."

Mr. Brendan McConagh of the Garvaghy Road residents, also addressed the crowd, claiming that the RUC had proved itself to be irreformable.

He said: "They have been trying to reform it since 1968. The only thing for the RUC is its complete and utter disbandment."

The representatives of the Garvaghy Road and Lower Ormeau Road received a rapturous reception from the massive crowd.

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at the Green

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JEFFREY
DONALDSON

BRACK OF
MITCHELL?

Friday evening
before riots +
Desmond
McShane
killed

DERBY JOURNAL
16/7/1992