

Meeting With The Alliance Party

1. Since the requirement identified in their paper of 10 September for an effective guarantee that the Mitchell compromise would be implemented during the negotiations would in fact happen - reflected in a bid for some IRA weapons to be handed over after Sinn Féin joins the negotiations but before they join the peace process, and for prior commitment to a schedule of declassification. We have made clear that such requirements are not deliverable.

2. Equally they have made clear that the two Governments' negotiated approach under which the overwhelming issue would be to ensure that a ceasefire running in parallel with the peace process is not acceptable to them. An agreement in which the IRA would be required to join the peace process is not acceptable to them.

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