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PRESS NOTE: PRIME MINISTER/TAOISEACH

The Prime Minister and Taoiseach spoke on the telephone this morning for about 20 minutes. The atmosphere was entirely friendly. On Northern Ireland, they discussed the position reached in the talks and agreed that there had been useful progress, although they would ideally have liked to see more before the summer break. They also discussed the prospects for the Apprentice Boys march on 10 August and agreed on the desirability of a local accommodation to prevent violence.

They also discussed briefly the proposed informal European Council under the Irish Presidency in the autumn and how this might best be handled to advance discussions on the Inter Governmental Conference.

31 July 1996