



# Sinn Féin

...news release/nuacht ráiteas...

For immediate release

27 June 1996

## BRITISH POLICY CRITICAL TO RESTORATION OF PEACE PROCESS

In the course of a speech given at a Cairde Sinn Féin Function in An Cearthrí Rua, Co. Galway this evening, Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams said:

"It is obvious that British policy is critical to any restoration of the peace process. From my contact with the IRA it is clear that this is where the greatest difficulty lies at present.

"There can be no doubt that many republicans and nationalists view the British government's stance as the biggest obstacle to any effort to bring about a restoration of the cessation. Its bad faith, so evident during the 18 month cessation, is at the core of all of this.

"The gulf of mistrust which now exists must be bridged. Confidence must be created.

"I know that recent events have caused difficulties for the Taoiseach, and for everyone else, but none of us can retreat to our old positions. I am concerned that Mr. Bruton has given up on the peace process. This is not a time for giving up. It is a time for digging deep and for being resilient. This is a challenging time for all political leaders, the Taoiseach especially must rise above party politics, or party political analysis. The Taoiseach must represent the entire national interest. Mr. Bruton has closed the door on Sinn Féin. That is the reality. Until the dialogue was cut off Sinn Féin and the Irish government were making progress. That dialogue should be re-established on exactly the same basis as before. That is the restoration of the peace process." ENDS