

6 Jun 1997 16:23

IPL NIO LONDON

No. 0804 P. 9/12

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX

MR MURPHY'S MEETINGS WITH THE PARTIES ON 9 JUNE

1. Primarily a listening exercise.
2. Attention likely to focus on
 - (a) the outcome of the Irish General Election;
 - (b) claims that the two Governments are putting together a paper on decommissioning;
 - (c) [the implications of any IRA activity over the weekend];
 - (d) (for the UKUP) the prospects for further official meetings with Sinn Fein.
3. On decommissioning the Minister need not hide the fact that the two Governments are indeed working up some proposals (the Secretary of State told plenary on 3 June that she was "determined to facilitate" a resolution of the decommissioning issue and secure the early launch of substantive negotiations) and that we may put them forward in due course for consideration.
4. He may need to deal with Alliance scepticism that an acceptable deal can be struck, but it would probably be best to let them "wait and see" rather than reveal details at this stage.
5. So far as the UKUP is concerned, the key point to stress is that decommissioning must be resolved to the satisfaction of the participants; and that, whatever the two Governments put forward, there must be agreement within the talks on how the decommissioning issue should be handled.

CONFIDENTIAL

9

CPL/834/CAO

6. Jun. 1997 16:23

IPL NIO LONDON

No. 0804 P. 10/12

CONFIDENTIAL

6. With the SDLP the Minister might point out how unhelpful the Irish press briefing of Friday has been, while reassuring them that the Government has not been blown off course and will continue to cooperate closely with the Irish Government in preparing a package which stands a reasonable chance of winning sufficient consensus support. He might invite them to acknowledge the importance of taking due account of legitimate Unionist concerns and giving Mr Trimble all the political cover he made need to join in supporting whatever proposition is eventually tabled. (They may be more receptive to this argument than the Irish Government.)

CONFIDENTIAL

10

CPL/834/CAO

6. Jun. 1997 16:23

IFL NIO LONDON

No. 0804 P. 11/12

CONFIDENTIAL

TALKS GAMEPLAN

FOR WEEK BEGINNING: MONDAY 9 JUNE

cc: PS/Secretary of State (L&B)
PS/Mr Murphy(L&B)
PS/Mr Ingram (L&B)
PS/PUS (L&B)
PS/Sir David Fell
Mr Thomas (L&B)
Mr Steele
Mr Watkins
Mr Leach
Mr Bell
Mr Stephens
Mr Ray
Mr Wood (L&B)
Mr Lavery
Mr Perry
Mr Maccabe
Mr Beeton
Mr Brooker
Mr Priestly
Mr Whysall (L&B)
Ms Mapstone
Ms Bharucha
Mr Warner/Ms Healy
Mr Holmes, No 10
Mr Budd, Cabinet Office
Mr Tebbitt, RID
Mr Lamont, RID
HMA Dublin
Mr Clarke, Dublin
Mr Westmacott, W'ton
CAREY.

CONFIDENTIAL

11

CPL/834/CAO