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Joint Statement issued following meeting between
the Taoiseach and Ministers and a Delegation from
the S.D.L.P., 7th October, 1981.

The Taoiseach, Dr. Garret FitzGerald, T.D., the Minister for Fisheries and Forestry, Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick, T.D., the Minister for Labour, Mr. Liam Kavanagh, T.D., the Minister for Justice, Mr. Jim Mitchell, T.D. and the Minister-designate for Foreign Affairs, Senator James Dooge, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Peter Sutherland, S.C., met a delegation from the S.D.L.P. in Dublin today. The S.D.L.P. were represented by Mr. John Hume, M.E.P., Leader of the Party, Mr. Eddie McGrady, Chief Whip, Mr. Austin Currie, Liaison Officer for the Party with Dublin, Mr. Hugh Logue, Spokesman on Economic Affairs, Commerce and Manpower Services and Mr. Frank Feeley, Spokesman on Cross-Border Economic Development and Tourism and Mrs. Brid Rogers, General Secretary.

The possibilities for political change in Ireland were discussed in depth.

The meeting which lasted for two hours was the first with the S.D.L.P. since the Government took office.