



**An Chartlann Náisiúnta**  
**National Archives**

**Reference Code:** 2021/95/43

**Creator(s):** Department of the Taoiseach

**Accession Conditions:** Open

**Copyright:** National Archives, Ireland.  
May only be reproduced with  
the written permission of the  
Director of the National  
Archives.

# **Irish Congress of Trade Unions**

---

19 Raglan Road, Dublin 4

Our Reference: 1073

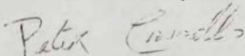
12 November 1993

Mr Albert Reynolds TD  
Taoiseach  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
DUBLIN 2

Dear Taoiseach

Further to my letter of 11 November regarding the Community Day for Peace in Northern Ireland, I enclose a list of the activities for the day and a copy of the statement of support from Roy Bailie, Chairman, CBI Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely



Peter Cassells  
General Secretary

PC/ag

*General Secretary: Peter Cassells*

*Telephone 680641 Telefax 609027*



Northern  
Ireland  
Committee

---

---

## Press Release

EMBARGO

### COMMUNITY DAY FOR UNIFYING PEACE

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1993

The Northern Ireland Committee, Irish Congress of Trade Unions today announced its plans for a *COMMUNITY DAY FOR UNIFYING PEACE* to be held next Thursday, 18 November.

The Day will feature:

- \* **11 am** *Minute's Silence in schools across the Province*
- \* **12.45 pm** *Up to 12 rallies throughout Northern Ireland, featuring especially at*  
**1 pm** *Minute's Silence, supported by a Minute's Silence in workplaces in the Republic of Ireland*
- \* *Official launch of the Christmas Peace Message*
- \* *D e c l a r a t i o n*

That evening:

*Special billboards at Belfast City Hall and Guildhall Square, Londonderry, endorsed by the Lord Mayor and Mayor of both cities, to be floodlit as part of the switching-on ceremonies of the Christmas Decorations*

Irish Congress of  
Trade Unions  
Congress House  
3 Wellington Park  
Belfast BT9 6DJ

Phone Belfast 681726

Yesterday evening, the Northern Ireland Committee held a special meeting to progress arrangements for the Community Day as follows:

#### Education

The employing authorities have been asked to arrange for pupils throughout the Province to participate collectively in each school in a Minute's Silence at 11 am. Teachers will be asked to brief pupils so that they are aware of the purpose of the Community Day.

Students in further and higher education will be asked to participate in the main rallies.

#### Rallies

Rallies are being arranged for 12.45 pm, ending at 1.15 pm as follows:

Belfast	Derry	Ballymena	Portadown
Enniskillen	Bangor	Newry	Strabane
Downpatrick	Dungannon	Cookstown/Magherafelt	

This list is not exhaustive and there may be supportive gatherings organised by Churches and / or inter-community groups in other areas.

The key feature of the rallies will be the Minute's Silence at 1 pm.

The ICTU is also seeking a co-ordinated Minute's Silence throughout workplaces in the Republic of Ireland .

It is hoped to end the rallies with the sounding of Church bells.

*Backing for the rallies has come from employers in both the public and private sector, and the CBI and Civil Service will be encouraging companies, Government Departments and Agencies to facilitate and encourage their employees to attend.*

#### Christmas Message

As part of the arrangements for the Community Day, every District Council in Northern Ireland will be asked to incorporate this message in their Christmas displays or in various town centres throughout their Districts.

It is also hoped to have special billboards to be illuminated at Belfast and Derry to coincide with the switching-on ceremonies of the Christmas lights.

The Northern Ireland Committee is encouraging people to back the Christmas switching-on ceremonies and the late-night shopping as a way of giving the community the confidence to come back into the cities in the evenings.

A similar endorsement will also be issued in respect of other towns.

Terry Carlin, Northern Ireland Officer ICTU, said: *"The response to date from those we have approached for support for the Community Day has been very encouraging. We have already been pledged the unequivocal backing of the Lord Mayor of Belfast and Mayor of Derry.*

*"It is clear that there is a large groundswell in the community for renewed efforts for reconciliation at both community and political level. This Community Day will give people an opportunity to build on this, and we hope that those who participate will renew their commitment to rebuilding the community to take us forward to a more prosperous future".*

Confederation of British Industry  
Finnon House  
108 Great Victoria Street  
Belfast BT2 7PD  
Telephone 0232 326658  
Facsimile 0232 245913

Northern Ireland



CBI

EMBARGO  
Thursday 11 November  
11 10 am

Statement by Roy Bailie, Chairman CBI Northern Ireland, on the 'Community Day of Action' arranged for Thursday 18 November 1993

The business community is extremely concerned at the continuing levels of violence and intimidation which have impacted on all sectors of the Northern Ireland community.

We believe the time is right for the entire community to display its abhorrence of events which have taken place and to call for a lasting peace for the future.

CBI Northern Ireland totally endorses the message that everyone has the right to live and the right to work free from intimidation and violence.

We fully support the range of events and activities being organised on Thursday 18 November, which provide a unique opportunity for the people of Northern Ireland to say - give peace a chance.

We will be encouraging employers to support the various activities being organised during the 18 November. We will be encouraging our members to facilitate the attendance of their employees at peace rallies, at various locations in the Province. These are expected to begin at 12.45pm and last about half an hour. Where this is impractical or in situations where disproportionate economic damage may result from a stoppage we have asked employers to think about organising something to demonstrate their hope for peace.

We also hope that the day of community action will encourage the politicians to find ways of securing a political and peaceful settlement so that Northern Ireland can start to look forward to a period of economic prosperity in the international arena.

#### Note to Editors

For further information please contact Roy Bailie on 08494 63911 or Nigel Smyth on 0232 326658.

A list of activities and events is attached with this release.



# Irish Congress of Trade Unions

19 Raglan Road, Dublin 4

Our Reference: 1073

11 November 1993

Mr Albert Reynolds TD  
Taoiseach  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
DUBLIN 2

*Secretary* Mr. B. McCarthy  
15/11  
*For attention please.*  
9<sup>15</sup>  
11

## Community Day for Peace in Northern Ireland

### One Minutes Silence - Thursday 18 November

Dear Taoiseach

The Northern Ireland Committee of Congress, with the support of the CBI, the four Churches, the Lord Mayors of Belfast and Derry and local community groups, is organising a Community Day for Peace in Northern Ireland on Thursday 18 November. As part of the day, there will be a minutes silence in all workplaces in Northern Ireland at 1.00 p.m., on Thursday. Our Northern Ireland Committee has asked us to support this and to arrange a similar event in the Republic.

We have recommended to our affiliated unions that, through their branches and shop stewards, arrangements should be made for their members to observe, at their place of work, a Minutes Silence for Peace in Northern Ireland on Thursday 18 November at 1.00 p.m. We would welcome your support for this initiative and, in particular, we would be grateful if Government Departments and other Agencies could be asked to facilitate requests for the holding of a minutes silence at their workplaces on Thursday. We have also sought the support of IBEC and the CIF on this.

I would be grateful if your Department would ring me if you require any further information on this initiative.

Yours sincerely

*Peter Cassells*

Peter Cassells  
General Secretary

PC/ag.