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NOTE

*L. Nolan*

(27)

cc 1/ST  
PSS; FFinlay  
Dr M Mansergh  
B McCarthy  
Joint Sec  
Amb Lon  
A/S Barrett  
A/S Foley  
Councillors A1

Statements of support for Joint Declaration from foreign Governments

1. The Joint Declaration has been presented by all of our Missions abroad to the Governments or organizations to which they are accredited.
2. We have asked our Missions to encourage the issuing of statements in support of the Joint Declaration. This has been done in some instances unilaterally and in others in conjunction with their British colleagues.
3. As of now (16/12 pm), statements have been issued by President Clinton, Prime Minister Keating, the Japanese Government, the Swedish Foreign Minister and the President of the European Commission. Copies are attached.
4. Reactions from the French, German, Italian and Canadian Governments are also likely and a letter of support from the Spanish Prime Minister is anticipated. Other Governments have indicated that, if asked about the Joint Declaration, they will indicate their support.
5. A statement is being prepared for possible issue after next Monday's General Affairs Council (where the Tanaiste and the Foreign Secretary will be briefing their colleagues).
6. The Secretary General of the UN has also been approached.
7. Statements of support have also come from Speaker Foley, the Chairman of the Friends of Ireland, Senator Edward

Kennedy, Congressman Joe Kennedy and the AOH.

Anglo-Irish Section  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
16 December 1993

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 15, 1993

Statement by the President

I warmly welcome today's joint declaration of Prime Ministers Albert Reynolds and John Major proposing a framework for peaceful resolution of the situation in Northern Ireland. I have followed with intense interest the British and Irish Prime Ministers' courageous search for peace. Their flexibility has led London and Dublin, for the first time, to acknowledge the other's deepest aspirations. The joint declaration reflects the yearning for peace that is shared by all traditions in Ireland and creates an historic opportunity to end the tragic cycle of bloodshed.

Difficult issues still remain to be resolved, including questions at the heart of national and cultural identity, and majority and minority rights. But as Prime Minister Reynolds said, the framework recognizes that differences can be fully and satisfactorily addressed and solved through the political process, on the basis of fundamental principles of agreement and consent. It reflects the belief of both governments that the way forward lies through dialogue and cooperation without compromising the beliefs of either tradition. I am especially heartened that, in the words of Prime Minister Major, the framework "closes no doors, except the door to violence." We hope that all parties will be inspired by the vision Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Major have shown.

I reaffirm the readiness of the United States to contribute in any appropriate way to the new opportunities which lie ahead in Northern Ireland. Our support for renewed political dialogue remains steadfast.

In this season of hope, the call for peace on earth has a special resonance in Northern Ireland. No side which claims a legitimate stake in the future of Northern Ireland can justify continued violence on any grounds. I call on those who would still seek to embrace or justify violence to heed the words of Paul and cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

\* \* \*



## PRIME MINISTER

### STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING MP

The Australian Government welcomes the Joint Declaration on Ireland issued by the British Prime Minister, Mr Major, and the Irish Taoiseach, Mr Reynolds, on 15 December.

The Government believes that the Declaration offers all parties in Ireland a new opportunity to establish a solid basis for understanding and trust within the island and with the United Kingdom. Peace in Ireland can only be built on such understanding and trust.

The Government hopes that all parties will now work for a renunciation of violence and for peaceful reconciliation.

Australia's support for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland has been shown in the past by Sir Ninian Stephen's chairmanship of the political talks on Northern Ireland.

We continue to be ready to offer what support we usefully can to the process.

**CANBERRA**  
**December 16, 1993**

December 16, 1993

Statement by the Press Secretary/Director-General  
for Public Information and Cultural Affairs of the  
Foreign Ministry on the Joint Declaration by the  
Prime Ministers of the U.K. and Ireland

1. The Government of Japan welcomes the Joint Declaration on Northern Ireland which was issued by the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and Ireland today.
2. It is the hope of my government that all parties concerned will, on the basis of the Joint Declaration, abstain from resorting to unlawful terrorist acts once and forever and that reconciliation will be promoted so that peace and stability will soon be restored in Northern Ireland.

STATEMENT BY SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER

16 December 1993

A meaningful step in the direction of a solution of the conflict in Northern Ireland was taken yesterday through the Joint Declaration which the British and Irish Prime Ministers adopted.

I welcome the Declaration and I plead with all parties to refrain from further violence. The Joint Declaration now presented is a constructive starting-point for continued talks. The opportunity now offered in search of a solution of the conflict must not be ruined by new acts of violence. It is my hope that the New Year will bring with it the beginning of a life in peace for the population of Northern Ireland, which has suffered so much from violence and terrorist deeds.



**DELORS**

On behalf of the Commission, I welcome the Joint Declaration made by An Taoiseach, Mr Albert Reynolds and the British Prime Minister, Mr. John Major yesterday in London.

This Declaration provides a basis for peace in a part of the European Union which has suffered so much tragedy and violence over the years.

The achievement of peace would bring many social and economic benefits to the region, the Member States concerned and the European Union as a whole.

The Commission fully supports the peace process.

The Joint Declaration rightly recognises the importance of the European dimension. The Commission wishes to give practical support to the peace process and is willing to discuss with the two Member States most directly concerned how best this can be done.



ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

cc PST

(27)

PSS: F. Finlay  
Ais Oh Uiginn  
Dr M. Mearns  
B. McCarthy  
J. J. Sec  
Ant. Linn  
Con. Kelly AM

Informal translation of press notice  
issued by Prime Minister's office

PRESS NOTICE

Palazzo Chigi circles express satisfaction at the understanding reached yesterday between British Prime Minister Major and Irish Prime Minister Reynolds on the delicate problem of Northern Ireland.

It is considered, in particular, that the "Joint Declaration" of the two Prime Ministers constitutes an operational framework within which should develop an active process of reconciliation with a view to a just and enduring political solution in the interests of the Irish peoples.

It is pointed out in the same circles that the understanding reached yesterday represents a concrete and far-seeing initiative - pursued, significantly, in the spirit of the common European Union membership of the United Kingdom and of Ireland - to put an end to a situation of conflict which has caused much mourning and suffering.

16/12 '93 16:50  
16/12/93 17:32

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EMBASSY OF IRELAND → DFA ANGLÓ IRISH

DEPT OF FOR AFFS ↔ DPT TAOISEACH 2

NO. 064 P001

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(21)

cc PST  
Pik; ffaly  
D. M. Manser  
B. McCarthy  
Jent S  
Amb Le  
Com. cell. A1



AMBASÁID NA HEIREANN  
AMBASSADE D'IRLANDE EMBASSY OF IRELAND

TELEFAX

Date: 16 December 1993 Østbanegade 21  
From: Ambassador O'Rourke DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø  
Denmark  
For: Ass. Sec. Seán O'Huiginn tel: (45) 31 42 32 33  
Anglo-Irish Division fax: (45) 35 43 18 58

No. of pages incl. cover: 1

subject: *[illegible]*

Message:

The following is an Embassy translation of a statement by the Danish Foreign Minister this afternoon.

Joint Declaration from the British and Irish Governments on the Peace Process in Northern Ireland.

The Foreign Minister states:

The Government has, with pleasure, received the news of the joint British-Irish Declaration on the peace process in Northern Ireland.

The Government supports the peace process which has now been initiated and hopes that the Irish and British Governments, together with the parties concerned, can before long come to a lasting solution to the bloody and destructive conflict. It is crucial for the implementation of the peace process in Northern Ireland that the parties which are using violence should cease to do so immediately.

The Government hopes that within this geographical area, it may also prove possible to meet the wish for the establishment of democracy and for resistance to violence.

Copenhagen, 16 December 1993

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INFO

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16/12/93

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HEURE LOCALE

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HEURE G.M.T.

DIFFUSION RESTREINTE

OBJET : CODIV: DECLARATION CONJOINTE DES PREMIERS MINISTRES DE  
GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE.

REF :

A LA SUITE DE LA DECLARATION CONJOINTE ENTRE LES PREMIERS  
MINISTRES DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE, LE PORTE-PAROLE DE LA  
PRESIDENCE A FAIT UNE DECLARATION A LA PRESSE. LA PRESIDENCE  
SOUSHAITE EN INFORMER SES PARTENAIRES. VOICI LE TEXTE DU  
COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE:

'A L'ISSUE DU CONSEIL AFFAIRES GENERALES DU 15 DECEMBRE LA  
PRESIDENCE, AYANT PRIS CONNAISSANCE DE LA DECLARATION CONJOINTE  
DES PREMIERS MINISTRES DE LA GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET DE L'IRLANDE, A  
EXPRIME SA GRANDE SATISFACTION ET SES FELICITATIONS POUR CETTE  
IMPORANTE REUSSITE POLITIQUE. ELLE S'EST FAIT LE PORTE-PAROLE DE  
L'UNION POUR SOUTENIR LES EFFORTS QUE LES DEUX GOUVERNEMENTS  
ENTREPRENNENT DANS LA RECHERCHE D'UNE SOLUTION PACIFIQUE ET  
DEMOCRATIQUE DU PROBLEME DANS L'IRLANDE DU NORD.'

COREU BRU  
FIN DE TEXTE

NNNN



cc PST (27)  
 PS; FF; day  
 Ays O h Ugin  
 M Mankelagh  
 B McCarth  
 Joid see  
 Ambs Lon + Wash.  
 Concellors #1

Canadian Embassy  
 65 St Stephen's Green  
 Dublin 2

Canada

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

DUBLIN, 16 DECEMBER 1993

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CANADIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
 LAUDS ANGLO-IRISH DECLARATION**

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today welcomed the Joint Declaration on Northern Ireland issued in London on December 15 by Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom, and Prime Minister Albert Reynolds of Ireland.

"Prime Ministers Major and Reynolds have taken an important step forward in their efforts to achieve peace, stability and reconciliation in Ireland. I hope that those who have pursued their objectives through violence will now have the wisdom to seize this opportunity to reconcile their differences peacefully," Mr Ouellet said.

The Principles contained in the joint declaration respect the rights, beliefs and values of both communities in Ireland, and accept the need to proceed with the consent of the people of Northern Ireland. Mr Ouellet underlined that Canada has long supported efforts to achieve peace in Northern Ireland. For example, Canada has provided financial support to the International Fund for Ireland, established by the British and Irish governments to encourage dialogue and reconciliation between unionists and nationalists.



(27)

AMBASÁID NA ÉIREANN  
(202) 452-5939



EMBASSY OF IRELAND  
220 MASSACHUSETTS AVE. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

URGENT

FAX NO 362

*M. Donoghue  
To see Pl.  
on 12/12.*

16 DECEMBER 1993

TO HQ FROM WASHINGTON  
FOR GERRY CORR FROM MICHAEL COLLINS

*cc PSJ:  
ASJ; f/ldg  
A/S & L/Upm  
Joint Sec  
M. Mansel  
B. McCarty*

REACTION OF AD HOC COMMITTEE TO PEACE DECLARATION

1. Yesterday evening, the Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs in Congress issued the attached statement on the Peace Declaration in the name of its three co-Chairmen, Congressmen Fish, Manton and Gilman.
2. The Embassy was in touch throughout yesterday with the offices of all three Congressmen and particularly with Congressman Manton in an effort to persuade them to respond positively to the Joint Declaration. Considering the previous posture of the Ad Hoc Committee, this statement is very satisfactory. Among other elements, it:
  - condemns the recent escalation of brutality carried out by the IRA and the Protestant paramilitary groups.
  - applauds the recognition in the Declaration of the urgency of the situation in Northern Ireland and the willingness to take steps towards resolving the crisis there.
  - says that the Ad Hoc Group "remain guardedly hopeful that all parties to the conflict will take this chance for negotiations".

(TOTAL NO OF PAGES: 2)  
TRANSMITTING OPERATOR: M CES

12/16/93

11:06

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**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515**

December 16, 1993

For Immediate Release  
December 16, 1993

Contact: Debbie Raily  
(202) 225-5441

**AD HOC COMMITTEE REACTS TO  
MAJOR-REYNOLDS PEACE PLAN**

The bipartisan leadership of the Ad Hoc Congressional Committee for Irish Affairs today reacted to the peace plan announced yesterday by British Prime Minister John Major and Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds. The Committee's three Co-Chairmen, Hamilton Fish, Thomas Hanten and Benjamin Gilman, in a joint statement said:

"The Ad Hoc Congressional Committee for Irish Affairs has sought for the past sixteen years to promote the causes of peace, justice, and an end to all violence and discrimination in Northern Ireland. We particularly deplore the recent escalation of brutality there -- carried out both by the IRA and Protestant paramilitary groups -- which has claimed the lives of so many innocent people.

We have continually emphasized the need for immediate action on this issue by the British government, and we applaud this recognition of the urgency of the situation in Northern Ireland and willingness to take steps toward resolving the crisis there. This plan, however, is just a first step. While it contains many positive statements, the plan outlines no definite proposals for bringing about peace and no specific timeframe for initiating negotiations.

We remain guardedly hopeful that all parties to the conflict will take advantage of this chance for negotiations, but we take this opportunity to reiterate our firm belief that it is vital that the governments of Ireland and Great Britain follow through on their commitment to consider the wide spectrum of political views in Northern Ireland."

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