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10 DOWNING STREET

Press Notice

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER

The Downing Street declaration offered an opportunity for peace.

It calls for a permanent end to violence and offers a balanced opportunity for all to play a full part in the future political life of Northern Ireland.

The IRA have declared a complete cessation of violence. I am greatly encouraged by this, but we need to be clear that this is indeed intended to be a permanent renunciation of violence, that is to say, for good.

If it is, then many options are open. If they are genuinely and irrevocably committed to use only peaceful and democratic methods in the future, then we shall respond positively, as we said in the Joint Declaration. Let words now be reflected in deeds.

31 August 1994

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