



**An Chartlann Náisiúnta**  
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cc  
a Kelleher  
C. H. Uiginn D/S

for A/Sec O HUiginn from Joe Hayes

Attached is a copy of Sinn Fein's statement issued at this afternoons press conference.

The following points from media contacts who were present at the conference may be of interest;

The conference was held in Jurys Hotel in the same room apparently where in the 1970s the Sinn Fein meeting took place which resulted in the split between officials and provisionals. Journalists to whom we have spoken described the affair as "triumphalist" and resembling at times 'a garden party' as Adams and other platform people strolled in the sunshine for TV interviews. There was a full turn out of Sinn Fein personalities including we are told a representative from Cavan who is known to be a key member of the IRA army council

There were I gather several references to the Tanaiste's meeting with President Clinton with Adams speaking approvingly of the Governments diplomatic efforts to explain the implications of the ceasefire.

The key points of substance identified by those journalists to whom we have spoken was Adams insistence that the RUC move out of nationalist areas. He was asked if this did not mean in effect that they were now calling for no go areas and I gather that he did not demur from this view.

There was also some references to the Secretariat when he was asked if it or other agencies of the Irish Govt might be involved in the mechanism to monitor the ceasefire. It seems that he has in mind some sort of telephone system but he did not apparently rule out Government involvement.

It appears that SF are very concerned about last nights Loyalists killing in Belfast since if there is to be a breakdown it will be from this type of situation where the pressure for IRA reaction would mount.

The question also arose of a meeting between the Taoiseach and Gerry Adams. This has been vehemently ruled out by Government spokesmen although we continue to receive queries here asking if it is true that the Taoiseach, Gerry Adams and John Hume are to meet this coming Monday in Belfast.



**SINN FÉIN PRESS CONFERENCE  
JURY'S HOTEL  
2nd SEPTEMBER 1994**

**Address by Gerry Adams to Sinn Féin Press Conference**

The IRA has created a momentous opportunity to move the situation forward. All of us have a heavy responsibility to respond with imagination, generosity and flexibility and to turn the potential for a lasting peace into a reality.

There is also a need for a mechanism to monitor this new situation.

Sinn Féin has been investigating ways to have the Peace Process monitored. We will return to this issue in the weeks ahead. In the meantime, I would appeal to community and non-party political groups throughout the Six Counties to establish a facility for people to record the behaviour of British Crown Forces and their allies in the loyalist death squads. This is particularly important given <sup>since</sup> the murders in recent days. *an irise ní seasmal*

Inclusive Negotiations Now

The first crucial step in conflict resolution strategy is dialogue.

Britain should immediately acknowledge Sinn Féin's democratic rights and electoral mandate. Constitutional and political change is essential.

A process of inclusive negotiations, without vetos, without preconditions and without any pre-determined outcome is essential now if the issues which give rise to conflict are to be successfully resolved.

In this way the necessary changes can be agreed openly and democratically. That work should begin now. It is Sinn Féin's intention, to the very best of our ability, to make our involvement in negotiations an inclusive one. We wish to see a transformation of Irish society. The process of deciding this transformation - of deciding the type of society we need, must involve people in democratic discussion.

Sinn Féin therefore, will attempt to initiate a consultative process. The people need to be consulted about negotiations. Negotiations cannot take

place above the heads or behind the backs of people.

### Fundamental Change

The Sinn Féin agenda for the process of transforming Ireland has a number of core items. In negotiations Sinn Féin will seek an end to British jurisdiction in Ireland and an end to partition.

We wish to build a united and independent Ireland which recognises and encourages the diversity of Irish people and which will earn their allegiance and respect.

### The Unionists

A negotiated political settlement poses no threat to any section of our people. Unionists must be involved. We can't make peace without them.

New relationships will have to be forged between all the people of our country and there must be a readiness on the part of all political representatives to engage in inclusive, democratic dialogue. No political leader can make peace on his or her own. The need to unite the people of our country and all our leaders for this task is essential.

### Equality of Treatment

Visible and speedy progress can be made on many other issues which have contributed to the conflict. Equality of treatment and parity of esteem are essential ingredients of a process towards a just settlement.

There should be immediate and effective movement to end religious discrimination. There should be an immediate end to cultural discrimination. The rights of gaelgeoiri must be fully recognised.

Political vetting of community groups must be ended.

### Demilitarisation

The entire process of demilitarisation should begin immediately. The cratered and closed border roads should be opened. Collusion with the loyalist death squads must be stopped. Full information and proper provision of physical security for those targeted as a result of collusion should be provided as a matter of the utmost urgency.

Crown forces, including the RUC, are not acceptable in nationalist areas. There should be an end to raids, searches and arrests.

All forms of repressive legislation should be scrapped.

Irish political prisoners in Britain should be transferred home immediately.

All political prisoners should be released.

contd.

Harnessing the Potential

Nationalist Ireland at home and abroad is more powerful and confident than ever before. That strength needs to be employed positively in the search for a just and lasting peace.

All our resources, diplomatic, political, economic and popular must be mobilised and focussed properly to bring about the necessary constitutional and political change.

Nationalists in the Six Counties can never again be abandoned. We will never again be treated as second class citizens. Our human rights, our civil rights our economic and cultural rights and our national rights must be restored.

That is the central and most important role of those who have committed themselves to this peace process. The struggle for Irish Freedom is not over. There is much hard work to be done and every one has a part to play in bringing our effort to a successful conclusion.

There will be many pressures on the peace process. We must remain calm and focus our efforts on building peace based on freedom justice and equality.