



An Chartlann Náisiúnta
National Archives

Reference Code: 2021/96/35

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.



Councillor J. G. McMichael

21A MARKET PLACE
LISBURN
CO. ANTRIM
BT28 1AN
Tel: Business - (0846) 666792
(0846) 0850 315293

Mr. Albert Reynolds T.D.
Dail Eireann,
Dublin,
Republic of Ireland.

30.5.94

Dear Mr. Reynolds

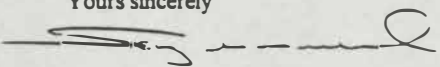
It has been suggested that Loyalists are planning to increase their violence in the Republic in an attempt to extract a similar response from Dublin to that which has been given by the British Government regarding neutrality and having no strategic nor economic interest in Northern Ireland. It seems to me that if such a response from you would halt a Loyalist campaign then it should be given (if that is your position) so that our differences may be resolved as soon as possible by means of dialogue and politics, not violence.

Many people feel that the DUP and UUP leaderships' should have sought to clarify your position earlier. I now take it upon myself to ask you to clarify your position and therefore allow the people of N.I. to make up their own minds

1. Does your government seek a role in the governance of N. I.?
2. Does your government have a selfish strategic or economic interest in the territory of N.I.?
3. Does your government seek to encourage expression of the democratic wish of the greater number of the people of Northern Ireland, and to this end would it support a referendum on the 1985 Anglo Irish Agreement as suggested in art. 8 & 9 of the joint declaration?
4. Does your government accept, and support, the possibility that the democratic wish of the greater number of the people of Northern Ireland may be for Northern Ireland to remain within the United Kingdom, with no role for the government of the Republic in the governance of N.I. as suggested in art 5, 6 & 7 of the joint declaration? And would you support the earliest test of this opinion without preconditions?
5. Would your government, upon the acceptance of a constitutional settlement by the greater number of the people of N.I., affirm willingness to ask the people of the Republic to alter articles 2 & 3 of the Republic's constitution?
6. Do you accept that neither government has a veto on the political development of Northern Ireland supported by the greater number of the people and that such development could be promoted outside the remit or framework of the Anglo Irish government sponsored process - for example a process established by the N. I. parties themselves?

I sincerely hope that you will answer the above questions so that we may advance the peace - process and foster a new political accommodation between the people of Northern Ireland and a new era of friendship between the two parts of this island.

Yours sincerely



C.C. Dick Spring . Dept of Foreign Affairs.
C.C. Sir Patrick Mayhew S. S. for Northern Ireland.