

An Chartlann Náisiúnta
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Mr Griffin
1. 12. 99

2.

SEEN BY TAOISEACH

FOR: ROSE GAUGHAN/EMBASSY LONDON **FROM:** Bill Nolan

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Pádraig
29. 11. 99

1. Remarks by David Trimble immediately after the UUP Council Vote - BBC Radio Ulster - Saturday 27 November 1999

You can see from the result that there has been a clear endorsement by the UUP Council of the proposals I put to them. Namely that we proceed on the basis that decommissioning will follow soon thereafter. And the Council resolved to revisit the issue at a date to be chosen by the President of the Council in February. At which point we will then hopefully, we will indeed then be in a position to take a final decision. This clears the stalemate that we've had in terms of the process. I must say that we've had an extremely good debate within the Council with some 27 contributions wholly in accordance with the best traditions of the Ulster Unionist Council. And in terms of the openness and democratic spirit of my Party, I assert with absolute confidence that you cannot find its equal anywhere in the British Isles.

Now we've done our bit and Mr. Adams it's over to you. We've jumped, you follow. Thank You.

2. Remarks by Gerry Adams during phone-in to David Dunseith. Mr. Adams phoned into the BBC studio before the UUP Council vote was taken, upon hearing the first rumours of the proposal that the UUP would postpone a final decision to February.

Let me say that if these reports are true, they are entirely outside the terms of the Mitchell Review. It's also, in my opinion, the wrong way to sort this matter out. It will fuel the uncertainty. It will keep alive the hope of the rejectionists inside and outside of the UUP. And it runs against the Good Friday Agreement and against, I would say, all the advice that was given to Mr. Trimble in the last number of months.

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All I felt moved to do was to place it on the record that if these reports are true, that in my view, it's the wrong way to go and they are clearly outside the terms of the Mitchell Review. All this does really is postpone it for another two months.

Dunseith

Is it anything more, if there's a change of wording, and this is deferred until February? That's a Party decision and it doesn't impact at all on events that might and will now, if he wins, take place from next Monday?

Adams

I just wanted to put down a small marker at this stage, but let's wait until we see the small print. Your two guest journalists (Paul Bew and Brian Feeney), have put up all the reasons why Sinn Féin should decommission. When what they miss, of course, massively, is that it's up to the IRA and the other armed groups, and not up to Sinn Féin under the entitlement of this Agreement.

END.

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