Mr Bell - T

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE: REPRESENTATIONS FROM UNIONIST LEADERS

By prior arrangement I took delivery of the enclosed letter at the perimeter gate to Stormont Castle from Dr Paisley and Mr McCusker (the latter said he was standing in for Mr Molyneaux, who had a prior engagement).

2. Dr Paisley asked me to confirm that Mr Barry was in Stormont Castle. I said that a meeting of the Inter-Governmental Conference was taking place, a remark that led to cries of abuse from the twenty-strong crowd that had been allowed through. Mr Robinson and Mr McCusker demanded to know who was present at the meeting. I said that I understood a statement would be made afterwards. This led to the usual comments about informing the press before the elected representatives. Dr Paisley then read out the letter, adding at the end that it was written to reflect the very deep anger of the Ulster people. Mr McCusker added that Mr King's only saving grace was that he had not sent out someone with an Ulster accent to take delivery of the letter. At that point we went our separate ways. I do not think (though I cannot be sure) that there were any press present. The police were satisfied with the public order aspects of the encounter.

3. I doubt that any direct reply to the letter is called for, but we are as always open to advice.

R P CLEASBY
Private Secretary
Sir

Once again to your shame you are engaged in treachery against Ulster and its constitutional integrity. In the name of the Unionist majority, whose rights you have trampled in the gutter, we repudiate you.

The sordid exercise in which you are involved is the very antithesis of democracy. Today you debase yourself to the level of an equal with the imposter Barry - the lowest form of political existence - who has no jurisdiction in this realm and who, parasite that he is, has been carried to your table on the back of the murdering IRA.

Little wonder you are held in Judas-like contempt. Your treachery is deepened by the fact that in order to establish this tyranny and stamp out legitimate protest you have withdrawn hundreds of policemen from the Border so that they might protect the harbourers of murderers rather than their certain victims.

Yours contemptuously,

IAN R K PAISLEY M P

HAROLD McCUSKER M P