

F

**F. T. MOFFITT**  
3 ACADEMY STREET,  
GRACEHILL, BALLYMENA,  
BT4 22NJ. TEL: 2185 653165

30th May, 1991

Dr. John T. Alderdice,  
Alliance Party of Northern Ireland  
447A, Newtownards Road,  
Belfast BT4 1AQ.

Dear Dr. Alderdice,

Thank you for your letter of the 28th in response to my suggestion about Catherine McGuinness.

I have just been listening to you on the radio and I sympathize with you in the position you have found yourself in over the past few hours; it must be a great relief to get back to your psychiatric hospital among sane people. It seems to be getting to poor Peter Brooke too, he must have taken leave of his senses to suggest a high profile political figure like Lord Carrington when what is required is a low-key, quiet, intelligent and nonparty political person which is why I suggested Catherine.

I wrote yesterday to Ian Paisley suggesting that he consider the merits of Catherine McGuinness as Chairman and that he should discuss it privately with John Hume, with you and with the OUP with a view to putting her name forward as an agreed candidate. I pointed out to him that this course would be to his tactical advantage as Haughey could hardly oppose the suggestion without appearing petty and negative.

I doubt if anything will come of this. I have thought for a considerable time that the DUP/OUP do not really want these talks to go ahead and as each day passes I am more convinced that I am right. You at least will keep on trying to knock some sense into them and I wish you luck

Yours sincerely,

*Teresa Moffitt*