

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES OF DELEGATION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 JULY 1992 AFTER
PLENARY SESSION IN LANCASTER HOUSE, ST JAMES, LONDON

PRESENT: John Alderdice, Seamus Close, Addie Morrow, Sean
Neeson, Steve McBride, Eileen Bell, David Ford,
Ken Hull

John Alderdice asked for view from those who had been in the session.

Steve McBride - Had no overwhelming reaction - noticed Mallon was asleep during Wilson presentation. Noticed not great reaction from UU.

Sean Neeson - There is a need to study New Ireland Forum Report - this will be on the table. Hume appeared to be interested in Alliance presentation which was very effective. On occasions Hume smirked - he seem to be contemptuous of allegiances idea.

Addie Morrow - Felt all other parties found something in Alliance presentation. DUP appeared to be negative when Dublin speaking but not when Alliance was making presentation. Believes Dublin situation is unbelievable - he felt they might have been people who understood Northern realities. If Dublin want the talks to break down they will be playing Paisley's game.

Eileen Bell - Reaction of Dublin and SDLP is "not an inch". They do not seem to be prepared to listen - they want to put their markers down. Alliance paper was very good and DUP were nodding in agreement - seemed to be disgusted with Dublin paper. Was disappointed with Dublin/SDLP - they should have been showing flexibility. Felt HMG statement was clear.

Seamus Close - Felt Dublin statement was what was to be expected by way of presentation. Felt SDLP were happy with Dublin statement and that they had control of the ball when Dublin spoke. When HMG spoke he thought the SDLP had problems. Believed HMG presentation was good. Feels Paisley will huff and puff a bit. Alliance presentation very well received.

David Ford - Felt that Dublin had no co-ordination or leadership. Chairman seemed to allow bluster and waffle. Seemed that everyone listened to the Alliance statement.

John Alderdice - Dublin team seemed inept. Unionist did not seem to be ready - there was a question of competence. Dublin seemed anxious not to be questioned. There is a need to get down to the papers. Dublin will have to give ground when talk comes round to mutual satisfaction.