

DUP's statement on decommissioning 21/10/96.

Starts with accusing Taylor of breaching confidentiality at Forum by saying his sites

Sees a pre-determined agenda - loosening of the ties with UK; predetermined Chairman also forced on them; promised by Prime Minister that nothing would be forced on them. ^{with Irish Govt.}

Sees Chairmanship as part of election in USA - "disappears to USA - now - where first things come first".

Saw decommissioning as being addressed only - 4th strand - then admission of the IRA.

Predetermined agenda & outcome of the talks.

"No democracy in the structures that were ordered for these talks" — argued with the Govt. about parties who were round the table without much electorate support 14% → All; UBP + PUP + WC - seen as non Unionists. UKU + DUP 22.4; 26.1% - ODP.

Challenged by Mc Michael when he called UDP - UDA — \$would not take a correction on grounds that "everybody knows" they are connected to UDA.

Suggests that PUP is not a pro Unionist party, Hugh Smyth takes objection at remarks that he supported the Framework Document in USA.

* Point being made by Paisley is that those who support the Framework Document are anti-Union.

Objects to Irish Govt. being involved in Strand 1.

Rule 30 → agreement on documents under dispute - not consulted by Chairman.

Paisley Not wishing to discuss "decommissioning" - SDLP put forward a procedural motion → how much liberty would there be to discuss matters they want to discuss?

Irish Republicans don't decommission → he believes that historically there was decommissioning - fellow Republicans, 1923 - DeValera ordered a ceasefire - Cosgrave refused to meet DeValera & set two principles which Paisley supports.

Refers to Mayhew's statement on Durblane, Lord Colton's Report - on "calling in illegal guns". Sees this as hypocrisy - "tears of NI widows doesn't have same push". Not the legal weapons that have done the damage.

Claims the result for Kevin O'Higgins was a lesson when he tried to put decommissioning into effect.

Quotes Hume "no guns on the table, under the table or outside the door".

1931 Costelloe "Repeal of External Relations Act will take the gun out of Irish politics forever". But this didn't happen - murder & mayhem since then.

Quotes 1994 (Spring) "not temporary cessation to see what ~~happens~~ ^{the all pieces offer} handing up of arms".

IRA is waiting to see what happens.

June 1st 1994 "has to be evidence of handing over of weapons".

Mayhew 1993 "IRA will have to give up its guns to prove violence is over".

Yet IRA can come to talks by declaring old ceasefire - without one gun being handed over.



Sept '94 Major "No concessions to IRA".

28th Aug '95 NIQ "Any procedure other than handing over of weapons would not be acceptable constitutionally".

Quotes Mitchell McLaughlin "no handing over of weapons in other countries".

Questions the proposal on mutuality - if loyalists were to leave the talks, then Sinn Féin could say there was no mutuality.

IRA arsenal 600 revolvers 650 assault rifles, Rocket launchers, etc.

3 tons of explosives

- Para. 50 questioned. Complain that the Irish govt. will not fight the IRA in its own jurisdiction. No confidence building on this.

History of extradition is a shameful catalogue of negativity - difference of extradition from South to North in contrast to North to South. 57 cases - only one extradited. ¹⁹⁸⁶ Evelyn Glendholme - technical flaw. John Gerard O'Reilly - 1986.

1992 - Anthony Sloan; 1985 - Brenda Burns - warrants declared invalid. Irish govt. set individuals up with social security payments. With such flagrant abuse is it little wonder terrorists demand total decommiss.

Fusco - living in Tralee - shot out of Grumhill Road - 1983 - boasts of closings again Owen Carron + Deenot Finnucane

System of justice reeks - contaminated by hatred of British justice. Refuse to face up to responsibilities of govt.

Irish govt. + SDLP excuse violence of IRA.

Why decommission? Tangible gestures necessary.

"Free to join in due course through democratic principles" - govt. problem after stating this. Terrorists

Contradiction — Sinn Féin had 15%.

would have a mandate — so turned electoral system on its head by allowing minor parties to table.

- 2) Govt. made a working assumption that ceasefire was permanent — diluted
3) Also had a precondition on hand over — diluted this requirement this also.

Quotes Mayhew on handing over + Prime Minister's demand for decomm. before talks.

Letter from Paisley to PM. → PM response "to demonstrate good faith, some arms as a tangible confidence building

CHANGE IN GOVT ATTITUDE

Govt. now accepts all aspects of the report.

DUP/UUP/FF - fought elections on full decomm.

Quotes Trimble 7/10/96 — changed his attitude since then.

Trimble argued for actual decomm. → Taylor contradicted this in July → accepted mutuality. Taylor has gone over to mutuality.

Quotes DUP manifesto — "total decomm. before paramilitaries are allowed to enter negotiations".

- * Had IRA not broken ceasefire, would they have negotiated?
* Distinction should be made between those who have maintained ceasefire — loyalists must also engage in total decomm. before substantive talks.

- i) Total disarm. of all para. org.
Stat:

All partic. commit themselves to programme — include a timetable; % of stockpile handed over each stage; linked to calendar & not linked to success of talks;

If Mayhew's position adopted — token will have to be tangible.

Proposals will be put to this body at later stage.

In H. Report has nothing to do with real decommissioning.
Total that

After they had agreed Mitchell principles they would proceed to decommissioning — not address — then arrive at talks & see the joint Govt. statement. Mutually agree in a confidence building exercise

Total Body "Total amnesty" — promised electorate they would be brought to justice.

Speaks of the bitterness forced on people who have lost loved ones — he will see but that Govt. will not make concessions. Weapons will be

~~H~~ Rounded up + taken away — but doesn't say whether they will be used for forensic evidence.