

4 hours 1-5 p.m. - on how to decide if we reach agreement.
DUP - determination by vote.

Ken Magennis.

4/Nov.

Question to R.O.I / Owens.

1. Enabling legislation →

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Is there anything beyond legislation which ^{Irish} Govt. is prepared to do?

Owens argues they are willing to pursue this.

Magennis: What is timescale for appointing Commission - what would its work be? Timescale?

Meet in setting up a Commission Designate?

Experts appointed to assist Committee -

Brit. + Irish Govt. - para 40 - this has to be determined by parties.

Two govts have not decided who will serve on Verification Committee.

Magennis "I have not the technical 'nause' to determine who should sit on this committee - Govts. are shirking their responsibility as to who should sit on this committee."

Owens: Commiss. appointed by Govts. - but what the body will say + do will be decided by parties eq on neutrality. Abiding by the International Body's Report.

Magennis: Have the 2 govts primary responsibility for initiating the Commission?

Is there not a complete package in place?

Owens: Only the persons involved have the weapons - Irish Govt. don't have weapons. (laughter from Unionist)
Just putting legislat. in place won't make it happen.

Magennis: Wants the govts. to go away into a room + discuss the details.

Sean Farren: Disappointed to hear Magennis suggest that we disown this part of the process

+ leave it to the two Gouls.

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Magennis: Our contribution is the monitoring of legis.
Govts are the enablers to devise the schemes under the legislat. Unless they appoint experts, none around the table can do it. "Users" that the 'beneficiaries' will need to be put in place.



McCartney to Ancrem: Is the ^{British} position similar to SDRP - endorsing the Mitchell Report.

Ancrem agrees about Mitchell Report + comments on the extensive work that has been done to date on drafting legislation.



UUP: Decommissioning can be used as a veto of twin track

Owens: Twin track will enable polit. progress + decomm. to take place.

UUP: If ceasefire: what would SF have to do

Owens: Mitchell Principles

UUP: Need for confidence - building. No mechanisms in place. SF come in. Influence debate on decomm. How early should decomm. take place? What is an early stage?

Owens: Can't answer this. Can proceed on decomm. to a certain point.

UUP: What is certain point? Could lead to indeterminate debate on decomm. - that is a job for experts.

Period of time from ceasefire to entry? What conditions?

Owens: Credible ceasefire - invitation from Brit. Govt.

Para 8+9 Ground Rules - up to Brit. Govt. to decide on this. "looking at periods of time is

unhelpful" → Trimble.

UUP: what is tangible evidence of exclusively peaceful means?

UUP: What other steps than terms of ceasefire?

Owens: Para. 20 — Para 9 unequivocal restoration of Aug '94 ceasefire.

UUP: Will terms be sufficient?

Owens: Cannot predict in advance.

UUP: Ceasefire is only a temporary halt to violence. What tests will be applied?

Owens: Irish govt. will have to be satisfied. SF will subscribe to 6 Mitchell principles.

DUP: asked Why decommision?

Mayhew ~ "Politics & the threats of violence don't mix".

Also confidence-building measure → compromise position to achieve it now.

DUP: If implicit threat what would Govt. do?

Brit. Govt: Test of Realism. No unilateral decomm. has taken place by loyalists — doesn't make their position untenable.

DUP: Sees loyalists on ceasefire. SF would enter after one ceasefire broken, tactical device of another — So threat could be ^{used to} ~~extracted~~ ^{a better position} from SF from talks & parties during negotiations.

wants SF to sign up to tangible process — would this be inconsistent with ^{Legislation} S.O.S. Robe

Mayhew: have to keep my statutory Robe unfettered.

Can't in advance say what he requires.

DUP: Could legislat. require some conditions of IRA?

Mayhew: if reasonable, it could but can't commit to himself ^{to} what is consistent beforehand.

DUP: Reassurance on 'not parallel talking' but on 'parallel decommisioning'.

Submittee — veto by SDLP / Irish / Brit Govt. on positions

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