



COMMONS  
SW1A 0AA

*With Compliments*

*K. McNAMARA MP*

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON, SW1A 0AA

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I therefore want to put on record the view of the Opposition. If talks resume on a mutually agreed basis but are subsequently suspended for an election which leads to a change of government, a Labour government would take up where the outgoing government left off and continue the talks process. We are firmly committed to a policy of securing agreement between the political parties and the two governments on new and more acceptable political structures.

I hope this clarifies our position.

I am copying this letter to Jim Molyneux, Ian Paisley, John Hume, John Alderdyce and the Irish Ambassador in London so that all the parties to the talks are clear as to where the Opposition stands. Given the reports which have already surfaced in the press, I will also be releasing this to the media later today.

Yours sincerely

KEVIN MCNAMARA MP





HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Peter Brooke PC MP  
Northern Ireland Office  
Whitehall  
London SW1

3 January 1991

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to you to ensure that you are clear about the position of the Opposition on the negotiations in which you are presently involved.

As you know, the Opposition has supported your initiative in bringing the political parties in Northern Ireland and the British and Irish governments to the negotiating table. You will also be aware of our determination not to do anything which might undermine your efforts.

However, I now understand that a pre-condition is being suggested for the resumption of talks, namely that they should only continue while there is a Conservative government in office. I must say that I am surprised that a member of the British government involved in negotiations with a substantial international dimension could appear to countenance such a requirement.

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