

5 March 1994,

Mr John Hume MP MEP,
Leader, SDLP,
6 Westglen Park,
LONDONDERRY BT48 9JF.

I know that we are both concerned to see political progress as soon as possible. Whilst the current discussions with Michael Ancram, and our various other meetings with both British and Irish Governments, are very important, I do not believe that all discussions need to be under governmental auspices. I would therefore like to suggest that our parties could usefully meet to explore your current views and most recent proposals, and any other matters which may be conducive to creating greater peace, stability and reconciliation in our community.

I would leave it to your judgement whether it is best for the two of us to meet on this, or for other colleagues to do some initial work on our behalf.

I may say that I am also writing to Jim Molyneaux in the same terms.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Dr John T Alderdice
PARTY LEADER

30 March 1994,

Mr John Hume MP MEP,
Leader, SDLP,
6 Westglen Park,
LONDONDERRY BT48 9JF.

I appreciate that you have been very busy of late, however, as you know from my earlier letter I do feel that it would be important for us to meet.

You will know that, subsequent to my writing to you and Jim Molyneaux, I had a meeting with Jim. It was a very good meeting, and left me encouraged that such a meeting with yourself might also be productive.

If you would be agreeable, I can be contacted most easily at my home number - 0232-793097.

Dr John T Alderdice
PARTY LEADER

P.S. I was in Oxford at the weekend, and my brother David, who is currently writing up his dissertation there, sends his sincere thanks for all your work in arranging his visit to Brussels.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Our Ref JH\JD\2

12 April 1994

5 Bayview Terrace
DERRY
BT48 7EE

Dr John T Alderdice
The Alliance Party of N I
447A Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 1AQ

Dear John

I regret very much my delay in coming back to you re a meeting at a mutually convenient time. My schedule at the moment is virtually non-stop and your's must be somewhat similar. May I take up your first suggestion for a few of our colleagues to do some initial work on the present situation and we can then come together with them.

I have discussed the matter with Mark and Denis who with Sean Farren will be pleased to join with your group. If Eileen could give Pat a ring (0504 - 265340) with a few dates, she will arrange the meeting.

With kind regards
Yours sincerely

John Hume



13 April 1994,

Mr John Hume MP MEP,
Leader, SDLP,
5 Bayview Terrace,
LONDONDERRY BT48 7EE.

Thank you very much for your letter, which I received this afternoon. I understand indeed that your schedule is a very busy one. I am happy that we pursue the proposal that three of your colleagues meet with three of my colleagues for some preliminary work, and I have asked David Ford to make contact with Pat about it.

I trust that we might then be able to meet together subsequently.

Dr John T Alderdice
PARTY LEADER