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The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

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“ P R E S S R E L E A S E ”

29 January 1998

Alderdice welcomes Bloody Sunday announcement.

Alliance Leader Lord Alderdice has welcomed the expected announcement of an inquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday.

Lord Alderdice said:

“I welcome the expected announcement of an inquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday, which is long overdue. The failure to establish what exactly happened on that tragic day has prolonged the pain and frustration of those who were bereaved. The sooner the truth is established and an appropriate response is made by the government the better.”

For further information contact Richard Good, Press Officer, on 0468 151972 (mobile) or 01426 245779 (pager).

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“ P R E S S R E L E A S E ”

29 January 1998

Alderdice welcomes Bloody Sunday inquiry

Speaking this afternoon in the House of Lords, the Alliance Leader Lord Alderdice has welcomed the announcement by the Prime Minister of the setting up of an international Judicial Inquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday.

Lord Alderdice said:

“There has long been a view, and it has strengthened in recent years, that something went badly wrong on that fateful day in January 1972. It is fair to say that there were particular difficulties at that time, with young soldiers having to carry out a policing role for which they had never been trained, and a community in political turmoil. I am also aware that there have been many events which have created concern, and an enormous number of terrorist atrocities calling out for apologies and indeed remorse, but the events of Bloody Sunday have become a wound of very particular meaning.

“I welcome the decision announced today. It gives an opportunity for the truth to become clear, and for us to move on to resolving our problems in this area as in so many others. Some will seek to distort this matter for political ends, one way or another, but I am glad that this has not prevented the government from doing the right thing. I believe the decision will be welcomed, across the community, by anyone who wants affairs to be governed by what is right and true.”

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