

# Alliance

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

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## “ P R E S S R E L E A S E ”

17 February 1998

### Alliance makes representation public

The Alliance Party has today tabled in writing the formal representation which they made at the opening of the Dublin Castle Talks yesterday morning.

The wording of the representation, distributed to all the parties, is as follows:

'We have heard what the Secretary of State has said in response to our request last week for a report on the relevant events. In our view Sinn Fein is no longer entitled to participate in these Talks on the grounds that they have demonstrably dishonoured the principles of democracy and non violence set forth in the Report of 22 January 1996 of the International Body.

'Consistent with paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Command Paper which is part of the legal basis of these Talks, observance of the Mitchell Principles requires participants to be opposed to those who use force to influence the course or outcome of all-party negotiations. In the absence of a clear statement of opposition to the plans and purposes of those who carried out these two murders, we believe Sinn Fein to be in breach of the Mitchell Principles. The remedy for this latter position is of course entirely in the hands of Sinn Fein.'

The Party is determined that the issue of Sinn Fein's participation in the Talks will be concluded this evening. The Plenary session is scheduled to reconvene from 5pm to 8pm. Alliance believes that, if necessary, the session should continue beyond that time in order to achieve a conclusion today.

For further information contact Richard Good on 0044468 151972, or Niall Johnston on 0044973 561175