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FILE

FROM: D BROOKER
CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DIVISION
11 OCTOBER 1993

PS/SOFS (L&B) -B

- cc PS/Sir John Wheeler (L&B) -B
- PS/Michael Ancram (L&B&DENI) -B
- PS/PUS (L&B) -B
- PS/Mr Fell -B
- Mr Legge -B
- Mr Thomas -B
- Mr Bell -B
- Mr Lyon -B
- Mr Steele -B
- Mr Watkins -B
- Mr Williams -B
- Mr Wood (L&B) -B
- Mr Maccabe -B
- Mr Dodds -B
- Mr Cooke -B
- Mrs Rogers -B
- Mr Caine -B

ADJOURNMENT DEBATE: 22 OCTOBER

D BROOKER
Thank you for your minute of 5 October.

2. I enclose a draft outline for the Secretary of State's opening speech; if he is broadly content with it, we will work it up into a fuller text.
3. As it stands, the draft does not include a substantive passage on the Hume/Adams talks. We are, however, keeping an eye on the developing situation and will include a passage in the next draft.
4. You mentioned in your minute that the Secretary of State might also need to say something about the position on legislative procedures, depending upon current correspondence with No 10. Again, the draft is silent on that at present but a passage can be included if necessary, later this week, once the Secretary of State has discussed the correspondence with officials.

5. Finally, the draft is also silent on the issue of the Remand Delays Working Group - Mr Lyon's submission of 29 September. Sir John Wheeler has already commented that he does not see any need for an oral statement on the progress of the Working Group at present, and at the time of writing this minute, the Secretary of State has yet to comment.

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to have this opportunity to debate NI matters today. I intend to outline Government policy and to indicate how I see the signed DB. I look forward to hearing the views of hon. members during what I expect to be a considered and wide ranging debate.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES

D BROOKER
OAB Ext 6591

Government's policies in Northern Ireland are founded on the fact that Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom in domestic and international law. This Government has pledged that this will remain the position as long as that is the democratically expressed wish of a majority of the Northern Ireland people.

3. The Government's primary goal in Northern Ireland remains the achievement of peace and prosperity and to encourage the development of a more diverse, pluralist and tolerant society.

4. Our overriding priority is to bring terrorism to an end. But terrorism feeds on grievances in a fearful and divided society and we are determined to tackle the problems that lead to divisions.

OUTLINE FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S ADJOURNMENT DEBATE SPEECH:

OCTOBER 22

a set of complementary political, social and economic programmes to reinforce our security policy.

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to have this opportunity to debate NI matters today. I intend to outline Government policy and to indicate how I see the way ahead. I look forward to hearing the views of hon. members during what I expect to be a considered and wide ranging debate.

people of Northern Ireland are free to express their political democratically expressed wishes are defended and to create the conditions for a just peaceful and prosperous society.

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3. The Government's primary goal in Northern Ireland remains the achievement of peace and prosperity and to encourage the development of a more diverse, pluralist and tolerant society.

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11. Deterrence, interception, conviction.

More than any other part of the UK the Government has to address issues of policy in Northern Ireland in the round; we have developed a set of complementary political, social and economic programmes to reinforce our security policy.

SECURITY POLICY

5. A restatement of HMG's primary aim, to eradicate terrorism within law.

6. A robust line underscoring determination to ensure all the people of Northern Ireland are free to express their political opinions, their democratically expressed wishes are defended and to create the conditions for a just peaceful and prosperous society.

7. Confidence - actions of the security forces must at all times be such as to create and maintain confidence in their integrity and professionalism, as well as in their operational effectiveness.

(Examples ...)

8. Need for support from within the community.

Security Force successes

9. Not always publicised with equal weight as incidents.

10. Successes against all terrorists.

11. Deterrence, interception, conviction.

12. For example on 4 October alone:

Finds of 35kgm HME, firearms, radio scanner, 23 pipe bombs and a dozen arrests.

19. Garda successes - the Garda/Irish Army have also had notable successes recently. (Examples of recent finds, 3 in one week.)

13. These will continue because of the determination of the police and armed forces on both sides of the border. Government commitment.

SECURITY

Current situation

14. Level of threat is serious.

15. Terrorists still failing to see the futility and absurdity of their attacks.

PIRA

16. Attacks on security forces continue.

17. Commercial bombings - reckless, short or confused warnings; eg Boucher Road, where children were caught in the blast.

18. Comment on the IRA statement on the Hume/Adams talks followed by further terrorist deeds shows, as their attacks after local Government elections did, their two faces.

Loyalist

19. Shootings in front of children, etc.

20. Bombings of elected representatives and of workmen equal attacks on democratic process and ordinary working people.

General

21. Terrorism is rejected by all right minded people for what it is.

CO-OPERATION

22. Cross border security co-operation has never been better. (Examples of co-operation on the ground i.e. BCP reclosure operations.)

23. Both Governments recognise the importance of keeping existing measures under review - further improvements can be made wherever practicable.

Conclusion

24. Conscious of suffering caused to victims of attacks on business and on members of the public.

25. But there are successes and here the achievements of the police and Army are considerable.

26. The Government will continue to support the Chief Constable and the GOC in their sustained drive against terrorism from wherever it comes.

27. We do not underestimate the need for continuing resolve in our fight against the terrorists - the Government have that resolve. Terrorism will be brought to an end.

28. Together with our political, economic and social policies I believe the right strategy is in place for a better future for the people of Northern Ireland - which is what they deserve.

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

29. Promoting political stability in Northern Ireland is a key challenge for the Government. A widely acceptable political accommodation must be achieved. Such an agreement would need to encompass the three key sets of relationships involved.

30. Over the past two years this Government has been working to promote dialogue between the four main constitutional political parties in Northern Ireland and between the British and Irish Governments. The process has involved various phases.

31. When the round table talks ended in November 1992, Sir Ninian Stephen said that in his opinion the original objectives remained both valid and achievable. All the participants, without exception, agreed that further dialogue was both necessary and desirable.

32. The process remains alive. The Government has embarked on a series of private discussions with the constitutional parties to explore the basis upon which they can come together for further dialogue. The aim is to establish areas of common agreement; explore areas of continued apprehension or disagreement and to identify the degree of flexibility which may be needed on all sides to resolve them.

33. We recognise that there is work for both the British and Irish Governments to do on the third strand of the relationships between our two Governments is now in progress.

34. The task is not an easy one. We have not set ourselves any artificial time limits. Intend to work steadily towards our goal - a political settlement which is acceptable to the community in Northern Ireland and the elected leaders of the constitutional parties.

35. [Hume/Adams Talks]

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

36. NI has performed comparatively well during the economic recession. Unemployment has grown more slowly. Industrial output has remained stable.

37. Still a lot to do. No complacency. Government will continue to encourage the type of economic growth which will lead to stable long term jobs.

38. Achievements of "Backing Winners" scheme, LEDU and IDB, the Training and Employment Agency, Industrial Research and Technology Unit and tourism.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

39. Over the last four years in particular the Government has facilitated a wide variety of measures to encourage better community relations.

40. In 1993/94 the Government will provide £7 million to provide support for District Council programmes, the Community Relations Council, community reconciliation bodies, a cultural traditions programme, cross-community contact scheme and provision of cross-community facilities.

41. Government cannot be proscriptive in the area of relationships or understanding. It can support and facilitate developments which may lead to increased contacts and greater mutual understanding and acceptance of cultural diversity.

42. Despite continuing violence in Northern Ireland there is clear evidence of significant changes in the relationship between the two main traditions. The most recent British Social Attitudes Survey indicates that people are more inclined to support programmes aimed at improving community relations. There is evidence that these programmes are in themselves a significant contributor to improved community relations.

43. The Government is convinced that these programmes are essential and have been pleased by the responses of District Councils. However progress in solving such problems is never quick or easy. Long term goals must ensure that future generations in Northern Ireland will not continue to be trapped by myth, intolerance or segregation and that all will have an equal opportunity in education, in employment and housing, and in the expression of their political and cultural identity.

PERORATION

44. These, then, are the policies to which I and my Ministerial colleagues remain deeply committed. There is no room for complacency. Much remains to be done in all strands of our

policy. Look to a better future; progress is being made on all fronts and we will continue to do our best to serve the interests of the people of Northern Ireland.

MAIN BILLS

Political Talks	Miss Carrigan
Relations with the Irish Government	Talks Planning Unit

EXHIBITORY BILLS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Political | |
| (i) British Irish Parliamentary Body | Talks Planning Unit |
| (ii) SACND | SIS |
| (iii) Current legislative procedures | CPL |
| (iv) Legislative Programme for NI | CPL |
| (v) Northern Ireland Select Committee | CPL |
| (vi) Home/Issues Talks | SIS |
| 2. Security | |
| (i) Latest statistics | SPOS 1 and 2 |
| (ii) Expedition | SIS |
| (iii) Prescription | CPL |
| (iv) Evidence | SIS |
| (v) Ronald Delays working Group | CPL |

ADJOURNMENT DEBATE BRIEFING

Main Briefs

Political Talks

Miss Harrison

Relations with the Irish Government

Talks Planning Unit

Supplementary Briefs

1. Political

(i) British Irish Parliamentary Body

Talks Planning Unit

(ii) SACHR

ESL

(iii) Current Legislative Procedures

CPL

(iv) Legislative Programme for NI

CPL

(v) Northern Ireland Select Committee

CPL

(vi) Hume/Adams Talks

SIL

2. Security

(i) Latest statistics

SPOB 1 and 2

(ii) Extradition

SIL

(iii) Proscription

CPL

(iv) Prisons

PRB

(v) Remand Delays Working Group

CPJB

3. Economic and Social Issues

Central Sec or DFP to
commission and
co-ordinate from
relevant NI Departments

- (i) Latest statistical information
- (ii) Economic Developments
- (iii) Current Community Relations Issues

As requested in your letter of 27 September, I attach revised "Bull
Points" on political development. For use by FCO.

G. BARRISON
CPL DIVISION