

**Dermot Nally
Papers**

UCDA P254/86

63-PM

14/11/97

10. The British and Irish Governments reiterate that the achievement of peace must involve a permanent end to the use of, or support for, paramilitary violence. They confirm that, in these circumstances, ~~following a permanent cessation of violence~~, democratically mandated parties which establish a commitment to exclusively peaceful methods and which have shown that they abide by the democratic process, are free to participate fully in democratic politics and to join in dialogue in due course between the Governments and the political parties on the way ahead.

11. [On this basis, the British Government confirm their previous statement that they would be prepared to enter preliminary exploratory dialogue with Sinn Féin, within three months.]

12. The Irish Government would make their own arrangements within their jurisdiction to enable democratic parties to consult together and share in dialogue about the political future. The Taoiseach's intention is that these arrangements could include the establishment, in consultation with other parties, of a Forum for Peace and Reconciliation, to make recommendations on ways in which agreement and trust between both traditions in Ireland can be promoted and established.