

TO: Dr John Alderdice  
FAX NO: (0232) 796 689

FROM: Sir Ninian Stephen  
FAX NO: (071) 235 4330 (The Berkeley Hotel, Room 425)

DATE: 2 July 1992

Letter follows

delegations would be given the opportunity to respond in turn to the opening presentations. We could also discuss at that stage a program for further Strand 2 meetings.

THE RT HON SIR NINIAN STEPHEN

AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE

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2 July 1992

Dear Dr. Alderdice,

Sir Patrick Mayhew, as Chairman of Strand 1 of the talks process, has conveyed to me the very welcome news that agreement has been reached among the parties to Strand 1 of the talks to proceed to Strand 2. As Chairman of that part of the process I propose, if this is acceptable to you and your Party, to convene the opening plenary session of Strand 2 on Monday, 6 July, at Lancaster House in London. I would propose that the session commence at 2.00 pm and envisage that it would continue through until the afternoon of Wednesday, 8 July.

I cordially invite you to attend the plenary session. Provision will be made for a delegation of up to seven persons, four of whom will be seated at the table and three behind.

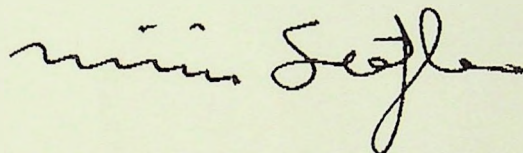
Given that we have had the opportunity to consider a possible agenda for Strand 2 at our preliminary meeting on 19 June, I do not see the need for a business committee meeting prior to the opening of the plenary session. I would propose that the first five items on the possible agenda which was discussed at that meeting should, subject to that agenda being approved, constitute the order of business for the plenary session. Day 1 could then comprise the Chairman's opening statement, the report from the Chairman of Strand 1 and the approval of the agenda for Strand 2. On Day 2 we would hear the opening presentations of each of the six delegations, taken in alphabetical order (perhaps three in the morning and three in the afternoon) and on the final day delegations would be given the opportunity to respond in turn to the opening presentations. We could also discuss at that stage a program for further Strand 2 meetings.

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I would be grateful if you would let me or my Private Secretary, George Thompson, know if these proposals are acceptable to you and, if so, who will be attending the plenary session on behalf of your Party. We can be contacted at the Berkeley Hotel in rooms 425 and 437 respectively. Detailed joining instructions will be sent out to you very shortly.

I look forward to chairing this important phase of the talks process and sincerely hope that our discussions will prove to be both satisfying and fruitful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Sefton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Jim Sefton".

Dr J Alderdice  
55 Knock Rd  
BELFAST