DESCRIPTION	Read time	STATUS mi
major/bruton	1:58	READY
Written by: waters	on: Tue Nov 28 23:17 1995	
Altered by: waters	on: Tue Nov 28 23:19 1995	

Mr Major told press briefing ideas were first discussed at Cannes in June, and agreement "will create further momentum in peace process and bring them closer to negotiations".<

Launching initiative "truly joint exercise by our two governments ...We intend to go on working together in spirit of friendship." < Initiative does not represent view of any one party and does not cut across any issues of principle in Downing St initiative. < mf

International body of three members serving in personal capacity to give advisory recommendations to Major and Bruton. US Senator Mitchell to chair body and two other members to be named soon< m

There are very many problems still to be resolved in Ulster, said Major.

Violence continues from terrorist organisations. < mf

Major said: "Initiative should create confidence for all sides to work together. No-one is being asked to abandon a principle.< "Everyone will need courage to take risks in the search for peace and I hope they will be prepared to do so."<

Bruton "very pleased" to be able to launch twin track process leading by the end of February to all-party negotiations to find agreement acceptable to all people in Ulster.

Bruton said there was generosity of spirit between north and south and Britain and Ireland. Political structures needed to reflect yearning for peace and reconciliation and mutual respect.

Bruton said they were setting out on road to overcome difficulties preventing naming of date for talks.

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International body will make independent assessment of decommissioning issue, consulting very widely and receiving submissions from all relevant parties. No limit on content of submissions, said Bruton.

Bruton said political track had opened agenda for detailed discussions with all parties to set preparations in place for talks aimed to start by end of February.

Major: We haven't changed our position on Washington Three. We won't be asking the international decommissioning body to question that position. It will not make recommendations on when decommissioning should start. The idea is to provide a mechanism to move towards all-party talks - "We see no other way than the physical decommissioning by Sinn Fein".