

ALD2/2/6/11/2/14

# Alliance

The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland

Headquarters  
207, Victoria Road  
Belfast BT7 3PP  
Northern Ireland  
Telephone: 028 2621 2000  
Facsimile: 028 2621 2007

## " P R E S S R E L E A S E "

10 April 1997

### ALDERDICE SLAMS PRISON ADMINISTRATION

Alliance Leader, Lord Alderdice, has criticised the prison administration for what he described as their "weak and inept handling" of the prison situation.

Lord Alderdice said:

"The prison administration, I cannot call them the authorities, for authority is exactly what they lack, have been weak and inept in their handling of the current situation. No one would suggest that running Northern Ireland prisons is an easy job but the unimpeccable approach to the prisoners and their demands is simply asking for trouble.

"The situation needs to be grasped firmly by the new Secretary of State. It is quite unacceptable, and an abdication of responsibility, to have prisons being run by the prisoners.