



UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN
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NORTHERN IRELAND: SPEECH BY GERRY ADAMS, 6 NOVEMBER

SUMMARY

1. ADAMS CRITICISES THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS' REJECTION OF THE HUME/ADAMS PROPOSALS AND DISMISSES SPRING'S 'SIX PRINCIPLES' AS AN INADEQUATE BASIS FOR PEACE.

DETAIL

2. ADAMS ADDRESSED THE SINN FEIN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN DUBLIN ON 6 NOVEMBER (TEXT BY FAX TO RID AND NIO). HE CLAIMED THAT THE HUME/ADAMS PROPOSALS PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS 'A REAL AND LASTING PEACE' AND CRITICISED THEIR REJECTION BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THE BRUSSELS JOINT STATEMENT OF 29 OCTOBER. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE, IN PARTICULAR, WAS 'PERFUNCTORY AND DISMISSIVE', BUT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS OUT OF STEP WITH BRITISH PUBLIC OPINION AND 'CANNOT AND MUST NOT BE PERMITTED TO REJECT THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE'.

3. SPRING'S SIX PRINCIPLES REINFORCED THE 'UNIONIST VETO' ON PROGRESS AND, IN CONTRAST TO THE HUME/ADAMS PROPOSALS, WERE 'OBVIOUSLY NOT' THE BASIS FOR A PEACE PROCESS, BECAUSE, AS SPRING KNEW, THEY DID NOT 'ADDRESS THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES'. THE APPEARANCE OF THE SIX PRINCIPLES AND THE REJECTION OF THE HUME/ADAMS APPROACH HAD LED TO A 'PALPABLE SENSE OF ABANDONMENT' AMONG THE NORTHERN NATIONALIST COMMUNITY.

4. ADAMS APPEALED TO THE 'PEOPLE IN THE 26 COUNTRIES' NOT TO SUPPORT A POLICY WHICH ISOLATED AND IGNORED THE HUME/ADAMS APPROACH AND 'SURRENDERS IRISH NATIONAL INTEREST TO THE NARROW INTEREST OF A BRITISH TORY GOVERNMENT'.

5. UNIONISTS ('20 PER CENT OF THE IRISH NATION') COULD BE ASSURED THAT HUME AND ADAMS SOUGHT A SOLUTION WHICH SECURED

THEIR ALLEGIANCE AND AGREEMENT BUT THEIR 'VETO OVER THE FUTURE OF THE IRISH PEOPLE' WAS UNDEMOCRATIC AND SHOULD NOT BE MAINTAINED. HE APPEALED TO THEM TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE 'REALITY' THAT THEIR FUTURE LAY WITH THE REST OF THE IRISH PEOPLE.

6. THE ONUS WAS NOW ON REYNOLDS TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR 'REMOVING THE CAUSES OF CONFLICT AND DIVISION IN IRELAND', ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE HUME/ADAMS PROPOSALS.

COMMENT

7. THIS SPEECH HAS BEEN SEEN BY COMMENTATORS HERE AS AN APPEAL TO THE IRISH PUBLIC TO SUPPORT THE HUME/ADAMS PROCESS IN THE FACE OF ITS REJECTION BY THE IRISH, AS WELL AS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

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