

C. A. Beeton

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FROM: J A DANIELL
 SIL/TPU
 7 JANUARY 1994
 (X 6587 OAB)

cc PS/Michael Ancram (L&B) - B
 PS/PUS (L&B) - B
 Mr Legge - B
 Mr Thomas - B
 Mr Bell - B
 Mr Williams - B
 Mr Deverell - B
 Mr Wood (L&B) - B
 Mr Watkins - B
 Mr Quinn - B
 Mr Brooker - B
 Mr Maccabe - B
 Mr Leach - B
 Mr Marsh - B
 Mr Caine - B
 Mr Archer, RID - B

PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (L&B) - B

JOINT DECLARATION STOCKTAKE

As requested in your note of 5 January, I attach an annotated agenda for the Secretary of State's meeting next week. It covers a number of contingencies in terms of the Provisionals' response to the Joint Declaration and includes items for discussion under each.

2. To be considered alongside the items on the agenda will be key events in the coming weeks, in particular:-

TOPS for questions - 20 January;

James Couchman's Private Members motion on political development in Northern Ireland - 21 January;

The Intergovernmental Conference - 28 January.

3. Also, whatever scenario applies, the bilateral talks with the constitutional parties will be under way and the Secretary of State has written to the Tanaiste impressing upon him the importance of taking forward the talks process and work on a 'framework' paper.

1. Review of current position:-

~~the Provisionals;~~

(signed)

~~the constitutional parties and the community in Northern Ireland;~~

J A DANIELL

~~the Irish Government.~~

2. Assuming the Provisionals continue not to respond:-

~~means of exerting pressure on PIRA/SP - business as usual, press ahead with political talks, stress futility of terrorist campaign - road to nowhere etc;~~

~~mobilise nationalist community, including the Church in support of the Declaration;~~

~~dealing with demands for clarification and the Adams letter, if it arrives - options for clarification without direct contact or negotiation?~~

~~the possibility of John Hume or Sinn Fein publishing details of the Anglo-Irish dialogue;~~

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT/JOINT DECLARATION

ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR STRATEGY MEETING

1. Review of current position:-

~~The Provisionals;~~

~~the constitutional parties
and the community in Northern
Ireland;~~

~~the Irish Government.~~

2. Assuming the Provisionals
continue not to respond:-

means of exerting pressure on
PIRA/SF - business as usual,
press ahead with political
talks, stress futility of
terrorist campaign - road to
nowhere etc;

mobilise nationalist
community, including the
Church in support of the
Declaration;

dealing with demands for
clarification and the Adams
letter, if it arrives -
options for clarification
without direct contact or
negotiation?

the possibility of John Hume
or Sinn Fein publishing
details of the Hume/Adams
dialogue;

time limits on PIRA response? The PM said "I can be patient for a little while but I am not going to put a date on it. I think a brief period of patience is worthwhile";

At what point do we assume the answer is 'No' - need to consult with the Irish;

What if a major atrocity? Implications for security policy.

3. A fudged response from the Provisionals:-

4. A temporary ceasefire accompanied by a request for further clarification of the document:-

5. If the answer is 'Yes':-

Sucking SF in to press from which they can't escape

dialogue within 3 months to:-

(i) explore the basis upon which SF enters the talks process;

(ii) exchange views on how SF will be able to play the same part in public life as the current constitutional parties;

(iii) examine practical consequences of the ending of violence.

sooner than that, consider ending broadcasting restrictions and revoking exclusion orders; changing access to government rules;

monitoring procedures - to report on what is happening on the ground and satisfy ourselves that the cessation of violence is genuinely permanent;

procedures by which PIRA gives up its arms;

implications - cover security force profile etc.

S E C R E T

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political talks - Unionists
will want to press ahead
before Sinn Fein enter the
process but the Irish and
SDLP will want to slow down.
Implications for bilaterals
with parties and possible
liaison group work;

6. If the answer is 'No':-

Joint Declaration still
stands - doors remain open -
exploit continuing doubts in
the Provisional movement
about their campaign;

Press ahead with all strands
of political agenda;

Press Irish on range of
security co-operation
measures;

On security, consider policy
measures, legislative
framework, information
strategy etc. But recognise
that they will not produce
immediate dramatic effect;

Maintain goodwill engendered
by the Declaration with the
Irish Government and overseas
Governments;

'Westminster' and the GB
constituency.

S E C R E T.

RN/SIL/22582