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S.D.L.P. meeting with Government, 15th December, 1978.

A meeting took place today in Leinster House between members of the Government and representatives of the S.D.L.P.

Those present on the Government side were the Taoiseach, Mr. J. Lynch, T.D., the Tánaiste, Mr. G. Colley, T.D., the Minister for Tourism and Transport, Mr. P. Faulkner, T.D., and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. M. O'Kennedy, T.D.

The S.D.L.P. delegation consisted of Mr. John Hume, Mr. Austin Currie, Mrs. Brid Rodgers, Mr. Seamas Mallon, Mr. Michael Canavan, Mr. Hugh Logue and Mr. Paddy O'Donoghue.

The discussions, which lasted over two hours, concentrated on the situation in Northern Ireland, including political and security problems, the present state of cross-border economic co-operation and the implications of the European Monetary System for North/South relations.

The S.D.L.P. representatives outlined for the Government the objectives of their present policy for a New Ireland, as set out in the party statement of the 6th December. The Government reiterated their commitment to their stated policy of promoting the coming together of all the people of Ireland in peace, by consent and under agreed structures and the two sides discussed the ways in which these common objectives could be promoted.