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FROM: S G BREARLEY
PARLIAMENTARY CLERK
4 MARCH 1994

MR BRAMLEY
MR BROOKER
MR DANIELL
MR GREER

cc: Miss Harrison
Mr Beeton
Mr Lemon
Mr Smith

PMS BULL POINTS

I attach a copy of the PM's Bull Points

SIGNED

S G BREARLEY

PARLY/13212

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NORTHERN IRELAND

Joint Declaration

Declaration complements and underpins the Talks process which is open only to democratically mandated parties who are committed exclusively to peaceful methods. Sinn Fein can join that dialogue, but it is up to them to stop violence permanently first.

Then - after an interval to show they mean it - we will talk to them about how they can come to play a full part in the democratic life of NI

Political Development

HMG committed to a comprehensive political accommodation based on the three key relationships those within Northern Ireland, within the island of Ireland and between the British and Irish Governments.

Private bilateral discussions are taking place with the constitutional parties.

My RH and LF recently floated ideas with the parties across the 3 Strands.

HMG has no blueprint for new institutions.

Select Committee for NI

Government has decided time for Select Committee for Northern Ireland has come. Setting up of such a Committee consistently recommended, in principle, by Procedure Committee since 1978

Anglo-Irish Agreement

Both Governments remain fully committed to the Agreement. Inter-governmental conference has proved forum for discussion of common interests such as security co-operation, social and economic issues. Value this co-operation.

Both Governments have made clear they would be prepared to consider a new more broadly based agreement if such an agreement

can be arrived at through direct discussion and negotiation between all of the parties concerned.

Extradition

Welcome the Extradition Bill which Irish Government has now published. Bill further restricts ability of terrorists to avoid extradition by claiming offences are political. Also contains number of amendments to current extradition procedures which respond to difficulties which have arisen in previous cases.

Law and Order

As at 27 February 1993 70 people had been charged with terrorist offences, including 18 with murder/attempted murder.

As at 31 January the RUC strength was 8456 full-time officers and 4591 reserve officers (full-time/part time). Funding for the police in 1992/93 is £600.9m.

As at 31 January regular army force level was 12242 and the Royal Irish Regiment (a merger of the UDR and RIR) was 5409.

As at 2 March 1994 6 civilians, 0 army and 1 RUC had been killed as a result of terrorist violence.

Making Belfast Work

Special initiative for the most disadvantaged areas of Belfast. £24m has been allocated to the programme in the financial year 1993/4 and a further £24.6 million will be made available in 1994/95.

Londonderry Initiative

Special initiative to address various aspects of urban decline and social and economic deprivation in Londonderry area. In 1993/94 financial year a total of £3.064m has been allocated to the initiative bringing total funding to around £15m.

Belfast Action Teams

Set up in 1987, nine teams now operate in areas of Belfast suffering from multiple deprivation. Current expenditure to date totals £39m. Provision for 1993/94 is £8.5m.

Fair Employment

Strong fair employment legislation being implemented effectively.

Many firms with 25+ employees are now introducing affirmative action measures, with assistance from Fair Employment Commission.

Analysis of the 1993 monitoring returns due to be published in March 1994; expected to show continuing increase in proportion of Catholics in employment.

Industrial Relations

In 1993 only 29 days per 1,000 employees were lost through strikes. This very low figure continues the significant downward trend in days lost over the preceding 5 years.

Economic Development

Government plans to spend some £472m on economic development in 1993/94 (£453.9m in 1994/95).

Economic Situation

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in Northern Ireland has fallen for 5 consecutive months and 8 out of the last 12 months. At January 1994 it was 6,000 below the same month in the previous year.

Training & Employment Agency

At present there are over 30,000 people benefiting from the T+EA's employment and training measures. The budget for 1994/95 financial year is £194m.

Housing

The overall level of funding for housing in NI in 1994/95 is £570m. The NIHE share of this is £522m.

57,000 houses have been sold by NI Housing Executive and some 66% of householders now own their homes.

Between 1987 and 1991 the level of unfitness fell 20% to 8.8%.

Education

Spending on Education was £1.2 billion in 1992/93 an increase of 8.8% over final outturn for 1991/92 excluding YTP. From 1979 to 1993 it will have increased by 33% in real terms.

In 1992/93, an estimated 34% of 18 year olds in NI entered higher education, as compared to 28% in Great Britain. The proportion of Northern Ireland new entrants to universities in Northern Ireland in 1992/93 from social classes IIIM, IV and V was 33%, compared to the UK average of 21%.

Health

Spending on the health and personal social services in 1993/94 will exceed £1.3 billion an increase of 5% over 1992/93 and 42% in real terms over 1979/80.

Additional funding of almost £10m over the 3 year period beginning 1993/94 is being made available to help further reduce waiting times.

Social Security

Spending on the social security benefits system for 1992/93 exceeded £2bn. This represents an increase of 15.5% in real terms over 1987/88.

Industrial Research & Technology Unit (IRTU)

IRTU promotes wealth creation through industrial R&D, technology transfer and innovation. It has used Government, EC and IFI finance to establish a network of centres of capability in NI.

Small town regeneration

Government has committed £18 million over 6 years to this programme which has led so far to the creation of 36 town based projects and has attracted a further £25m from the International Fund.

Finance

Public Expenditure figures for NI for the 3 years 1994/95 to 1996/97 are £7.4 billion, £7.7 billion and £7.9 billion respectively. The 1994/95 figure is an increase of 3.9% (£279m) over 1993/94 estimated outturn. Spending per head continues to be about a 1/3 higher than the UK average reflecting the particular needs and circumstances of the province.

Tourism

Figures for 1992 showed an encouraging 6% increase on 1991 level to 1.255m visitors - estimates for 1993 indicate a further modest rise.

European Community

NI's status as a priority 'objective 1' region gives it higher rates and levels of EC grant than most other UK regions. All the programmes within the 1989-93 Community Support Framework (including the initiatives) are now on target to be fully implemented. The three UK Objective 1 Structural Funds Plans (1994-99) were submitted to the European Commission last Autumn. Negotiations on the Northern Ireland Plan are expected to begin at the end of

March with a view to agreeing a new Community Support Framework for Northern Ireland by May.

Community Relations

Funding for Community Relations has increased from £1m in 1988-89 to more than £7m in 1993-94. This support is designed to increase the level of cross-community contact and to encourage greater mutual understanding and respect of the different cultures and traditions

Equality and Equity

Responses to a consultative document seeking views on the scope and form of legislation to outlaw racial discrimination are now being considered with a view to providing proposals later this year.

A review of the effectiveness of the Fair Employment (NI) Act 1989 and progress towards equality of opportunity and fair participation in employment is underway. A report will be produced by the end of 1995.

Citizens Charter

The NI Court Service Charter was published in November 1993 bringing the total Charters/Charter Standard Statements published to eighteen. A Further Education Charter and a Higher Education Charter will be published in mid-1994. A review of NI complaints procedures has commenced.

Agriculture

In 1993, aggregate agricultural income increased for the third successive year. "Total income from farming" rose by 17% in real terms and now stands at its highest real level for 20 years.

Measures adopted to reform CAP will increase the value of subsidies to cattle and sheep producers from £85m in 1992 to some £159m in 1995.

Upgrading of Belfast - Dublin
Railway Link

Work began in 1992 on upgrading
Belfast - Dublin rail link and is
due for completion in 1994.

Scheme will include new rolling
stock and reduce journey time to
1 hour 35 minutes for approx 100
mile trip.