

NORTHERN IRELAND

PS
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/PUS
MR GOODALL

PS/ S of S
PS/MR R ANDREW, OAB 1/56
MR BRENNAN
MR BURNS
MR PN BELL

NIO

HD/RID
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/INFO DEPT
HD/NEWS DEPT

SIR R ARMSTRONG }
DIO } CABINET OFFICE
PS/ NO 10 DOWNING STREET (3)

11-11-85

UNCLASSIFIED

FM COPENHAGEN

TO DESKBY 151700Z FCOLM

TELNO 273

OF 151600Z NOVEMBER 85

IMMEDIATE

M.H.P.T.

ADVANCE COPY

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

" IT IS EXTREMELY GOOD NEWS THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN CARRIED ON FOR SOME CONSIDERABLE TIME BETWEEN BRITAIN AND IRELAND ON A SOLUTION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND HAVE SUCCEEDED. THIS CALLS FOR CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND GREAT ADMIRATION FOR THE EFFORTS BEHIND IT.

THE AGREEMENT SIGNIFIES AN ENTIRELY NEW WAY OF SOLVING THE PROBLEMS AND IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO NORTHERN IRELAND. IT ESTABLISHES A STRUCTURE WHICH ENSURES THAT THE IDENTITIES OF THE MAJORITY AS WELL AS THE MINORITY ARE RESPECTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED. THUS IT SHOULD INDUCE CONFIDENCE IN BOTH GROUPS THAT THEIR RIGHTS WILL BE SAFEGUARDED.

AT THE SAME TIME THE AGREEMENT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND IRELAND AND TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WHOSE OBJECTIVE IT IS TO FURTHER CO-OPERATION AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES.

WE HAVE ALWAYS FOLLOWED DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND ATTENTIVELY AND WITH SINCERE COMPASSION TOWARDS THE POPULATION WHICH HAS SUFFERED SO MUCH.

IT IS THE HOPE OF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT THAT WE HAVE REACHED A DECISIVE TURNING POINT IN DEVELOPMENTS AWAY FROM PROLONGED VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM AND THAT THE AGREEMENT MAY CREATE THE BASIS FOR A PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE CO-OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS OF PEOPLE IN NORTHERN IRELAND."

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