



file straw

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 December 1985

Dear Diana,

Many thanks for your letter enclosing the draft European Assembly resolution on the Anglo-Irish Agreement. It was kind of you to let me see this and I do not think that I have any comments on the text. The support which it expresses will be most welcome.

Yours

Raymond

—

The Rt. Hon. Baroness Elles

VC

From The Rt. Hon. Baroness Elles



CDD
16/xii

House of Lords

~~C/F~~
Have you got
the letter of 6/12?
Do you wish to keep all? J/6/11

13th December, 1985

Dear Mrs Minchin

Just to confirm the message which I sent through yesterday that the attached document was adopted in the European Parliament (150-28-11 abst.). It was supported by the four major political Groups and covering all the nationalities represented in the Parliament.

[Handwritten signature]
Baroness

The Rt.Hon.
Margaret Thatcher, MP.,
Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street,
London S.W.1.

No REPLY

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

11 DECEMBER 1985

Doc. B2-1306)
B2-1333) 1
B2-1335)

AMENDMENT No. 1

tabled by Mr HUME and Mr ARNDT, on behalf of the Socialist Group
Mr McCARTIN, Mr CLINTON, Mr RAFTERY, Mr KLEPSCH and Mr PENDERS, on behalf
of the Group of the European People's Party
Sir Henry PLUMB, Lady ELLES and Mr PRAG, on behalf of the European
Democratic Group
Mr MAHER and Mrs VEIL, on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group
Mr BARZANTI, Mr IPPOLITO, Mr NOVELLI and Mr PAPAPIETRO

Motion for a resolution by Mr McCARTIN & others, on behalf of the Group of the
European People's Party (Doc. B2-1306/85)
Mr HUME and Mr ARNDT, on behalf of the Socialist
Group (Doc. B2-1333/85)
Lady ELLES, on behalf of the European Democratic Group
(Doc. B2-1335/85)

BRITISH-IRISH AGREEMENT

Replace these three motions for a resolution by the following new text :

The European Parliament,

- A. recalling that one of the principal motives of the founding fathers of the European Community was the conciliation of differences in a strife-torn Europe,
- B. having regard to the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom, signed at Hillsborough on the 15th November 1985, the aims of which are to promote peace and stability in Northern Ireland ; to reconcile the two major traditions in Ireland ; to create a new climate of friendship and co-operation between the people of the two countries and to improve co-operation in combating terrorism,
- C. noting that the two Governments will consider in the British/Irish intergovernmental conference the possibility of securing international support for the work of promoting the economic and social development of those parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the consequences of the instability of recent years,

PE 102.892 }
PE 102.893 } 1
PE 102.894 }

Please see over

- D. recognising that the strife in Northern Ireland with its terrible cost in terms of loss of lives and injury in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Great Britain is the greatest single source of violence in the European Community today,
- E. aware of the extensive damage to the economies of both parts of Ireland,
- F. recognising the major interest of the European Community in helping to create conditions of stability, justice and prosperity in all parts of the Community,
- G. recalling the adoption by the European Parliament of the resolution attached to the HAAGERUP-report (doc. 1-1526/83) on Northern Ireland on March 29th 1984¹ which called on the British and Irish Governments to take a joint initiative,
1. Welcomes the Agreement signed by the two Governments and hopes for its full and early implementation;
 2. Calls for an immediate end to violence and terrorism from whatever source;
 3. Believes that the Agreement offers a unique opportunity to make progress towards peace and reconciliation in Ireland by recognising the validity of both traditions in Northern Ireland;
 4. Believes that the Agreement will have all the greater chance of success if it is underpinned by a programme of economic development which would reduce unemployment and poverty, which are both a consequence of and a contributing factor to the violence;
 5. Therefore reaffirms its call to the competent Community bodies to assume a greater responsibility in the economic and social development of Northern Ireland and thereby give practical expression to the Parliament's resolution of March 29th, 1984;
 6. Calls also upon member states of the European Community to consider ways and means of supporting the British/Irish Agreement;
 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Ministers meeting in Political Co-operation.

PE 102.892)
PE 102.893) 1
PE 102.894)

Or. En.

¹ OJ C 117, 30.4.1984, p. 53

150-28-11 (ans).



10 DOWNING STREET

~~CDP~~

11/12.

NIO msg: Tom King
has 'no comment' to
make on Lady Ellis'
letter that they sent
over to you.

Mart.

Please let me
have paper

No!
Don't we
need more
recher papers
CDP



fe
rc

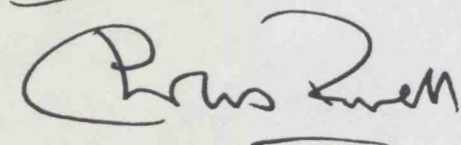
10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 December 1985

Dear Neil,

Thank you for your letter dated 10 December enclosing a draft reply from the Prime Minister to Lady Elles about the European Assembly's resolution on the Anglo/Irish Agreement. Your letter reached us some 20 hours after a telephone message from the Northern Ireland Office saying that you had no comments on Lady Elles' letter or the resolution; and ten minutes after we heard the outcome of the vote in the Assmby.

Yours sincerely,


(C.D. POWELL)

Neil Ward, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

rc

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

GK's ?



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street
WHITEHALL
London
SW1A

CD
12/12

10th December 1985

Reply went
out on 12/12/86.

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 9 December. We had in fact already seen the draft Resolution and had sent briefing through the usual ... channels to UK Rep Brussels. I attach a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send to Lady Elles together with a copy of that briefing. I think the letter to Lady Elles explains the background to our brief.

The Secretary of State has not yet seen this material: he is in Belfast and will see it overnight. I will telephone you with his comments early tomorrow.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Yours Sincerely

Niel Ward

N D WARD

ADDRESSEE'S REFERENCE.....

To	Enclosures	Copies to be sent to
The Rt Hon Baroness Elles House of Lords LONDON SW1		<i>As Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.</i>
(Full Postal Address)		(Full Address, if Necessary)

LETTER DRAFTED FOR SIGNATURE BY PRIME MINISTER
 (Name of Signatory)

Thank you for your letter of 6 December, and your kind remarks. The Northern Ireland Office have also been approached by UK Rep Brussels for briefing on the ... Resolution and I enclose a copy of the briefing which should be available in Brussels.

On the whole, we find the Resolution acceptable in that it supports the Anglo-Irish Agreement. But, as you know, we have in the past resisted and continue to resist involvement by the European Parliament in political matters in the United Kingdom. Indeed the British Members of the EDG abstained on the Resolution on the Haagerup Report, when it went before the European Parliament. The Resolution now before the European Parliament reaffirms the Haagerup Resolution and there would be a case for you to oppose or abstain on it on that ground. But any opposition to this Resolution by the EDG would be damaging in Northern Ireland and we have therefore suggested that you might vote in favour but make it clear that your support signifies no derogations from your stance on the Haagerup Report and Resolution. (I take it from your letter that there is

little chance that you would be able to excise that part
of the Resolution.)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION ON THE ANGLO-IRISH
AGREEMENT: BRIEFING FOR UKREP BRUSSELS

LINE TO TAKE

Opposition or abstention by the British Conservatives on this Fine Gael Resolution might give the impression that the UK Government was less enthusiastic about the Agreement than the Irish.

We see no objection to the EDG's voting in favour of the Resolution, but in view of operative paragraph 2 it might be appropriate to issue an Explanation of Vote, stating that their support signifies no derogations from their stance on the Haagerup Report and Resolution. If pressed on the operation of financial support, members may say that the two Governments have undertaken to cooperate to promote the economic and social development of those areas of both parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the consequences of the instability of recent years, and to consider the possibility of securing international support for this work.

HMG welcomes the European Community's continuing readiness to support the economic and social development of Northern Ireland and is considering what further steps can usefully be taken in this area.

BACKGROUND

1. In adopting the draft Resolution proposed by the 6 Fine Gael MEPs, the European Parliament would:

a) express support for the Anglo-Irish Agreement;

b) reaffirm its readiness to assume a greater responsibility for the economic and social development of Northern Ireland, to the limit of the financial capacity and legal obligations of the EC, as solemnly declared in the European Parliament Resolution of 19.3.84;

c) call on the competent EC bodies to strengthen financial aid to Northern Ireland and cross-border areas with the aim of assisting the successful implementation of the Agreement.

2. The Resolution of 19.3.84 was that on the Haagerup Report on the political and economic situation in Northern Ireland. HMG's attitude to that Report and Resolution (instigated by the Parliament's Political Affairs Committee) was that the European Parliament had no competence in the domestic political affairs of the

UK. Although the Report turned out fairly satisfactory - it concentrated on economic and social issues where HMG accept that the EC can have a proper and important role - the British members of the EDG abstained in the vote on the Resolution.

3. The Fine Gael draft Resolution does not raise the same difficulty. The Parliament would not be interfering in or even enquiring into the domestic political affairs of the UK but simply expressing support - financial as well as moral - for an Agreement between two member states. (A debate on the Resolution would of course allow for the expression of views on the Agreement but that seems inevitable at some stage.) HMG has already received welcome expressions of support from the UN Secretary General, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and President Reagan.

11. XII
Σ 6
B



SRW

ack / 9
8 December 1985

I enclose a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from Baroness Elles which in turn encloses a draft Resolution before the European Parliament on the Anglo-Irish Agreement. I should be grateful for a draft reply with any comments by the evening of Tuesday, 10 December.

(C. D. POWELL)

Jim Daniell, Esq.,
Northern Ireland Office.

From The Rt. Hon. Baroness Elles



House of Lords

6th December, 1985

The Prime Minister

Northern Ireland

I enclose a copy of the Draft Resolution which we hope will get maximum support in the European Parliament for your courageous action in concluding an Agreement with the Republic.

You will see the Resolution was drafted by the Irish members (Fine Gael) of the Christian Democrats. The text may be modified eventually, but I do not think substantially. If adopted, it would be next Thursday, December 12th.

*I wish to ensure that you are informed. A copy is going
to Tom King*

*Yours sincerely
Baroness Elles*

The Rt.Hon.
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London S.W.1.

Brussels 18th November, 1985.

Motion for Resolution tabled by Mr. McCartin, Mr. Clinton, Mrs. Banotti,
Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Raftery and Mr. Ryan

on behalf of the EPP Group,

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

for topical and urgent debate

on the Anglo-Irish Summit

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- recalling the adoption by the European Parliament of the Haagerup Report (doc. 1-1526/83) on Northern Ireland by an overwhelming majority,
 - having regard to the motion for a Resolution tabled by Mr. Van Aerssen and others on Northern Ireland (doc. 2-1323/84)
 - having regard to the communication from the Commission to the Council concerning the impact of Community policies and actions in Northern Ireland (COM (84) 613 final)
- A. Having regard to the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom signed in Hillsborough on the 15th November, 1985, the aims of which are to promote peace and stability in Northern Ireland; to reconcile the two major traditions in Ireland; to create a new climate of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries and to improve cooperation in combatting terrorism,
- B. Noting that the two Governments will consider in the Intergovernmental Conference the possibility of securing international support for the work of promoting the economic and social development of those parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the consequences of the instability of recent years,

.../...

C. Recognising the major interest of the European Community in supporting all such moves which will improve the situation in Northern Ireland, and convinced especially of the positive role of the European Community in improving the social and economic situation in Northern Ireland,

2 D. Mindful that the failure to date to find a peaceful solution to the problems of Northern Ireland is damaging to the image of Europe in the World,

E. Aware that the conflict in Northern Ireland and its effects on both parts of the island of Ireland impose enormous security costs on the two Member States and in addition costs in terms of the toll of death, human suffering and waste of resources,

? - whereas the two main political parties in the United States have stated their total support of the Agreement;

- whereas the European Community's backing of the Agreement would increase its chances of success.

1. Wholly endorses and fully supports the Agreement signed by the two Governments.

2. Reaffirms its solemn declaration contained in its resolution of 19th March 1984 of its readiness to assume a greater responsibility for the economic and social development of Northern Ireland, to the limit of the financial capacity and legal obligations of the European Community.

3. Calls on the competent Community bodies to continue to strengthen financial aid to Northern Ireland and cross border areas at this crucial stage in the development of Northern Ireland in the context of seeking to ensure the successful implementation of the Agreement.

4. Instructs its President to forward this Resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Governments of the Member States.

