29 (1)

Spoken to PM who in contact for document to be handed over to Irish Govt with CDP 11/6.

Prime Minister

Agree either Douglas Hurd's formulation or RTA's version below?

Agree that text may now be given to Irish government?

Yes pls

Ref. A085/1568

MR POWELL

Anglo-Irish Relations: Northern Ireland

Thank you for your minute of 10 June.

2. We will now put the draft British proposal to the Irish Government amended as suggested by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in his minute of 7 June.

CDP 10/6

A

3. If the Irish (as they may well do) respond by suggesting that any review clause should apply not just to Section III (the section that is there to meet their needs) but also to Section II (the section that commits the Irish Government on the constitutional status of Northern Ireland), I suggest that I should have discretion to propose:

(a) an alternative review formula covering the whole agreement (to be inserted as a new Section V), as follows:

"At the end of three years from the signature of this agreement, or earlier if requested by either party, the operation of the agreement would be reviewed by the two Governments"

and

B

(b) the insertion of the existing paragraph 4, in that place, to allow either Government to propose changes in the working of the Committee without calling the whole agreement into review.

4. I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to members of OD(I).

RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

10 June 1985

Ld Pres
FCO
MoD
LPS
DTI
CST
NIO
CDL
AttGen
Party Sec, HMT

SECRET AND PERSONAL

CCPC
(39)

28

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

ANGLO/IRISH RELATIONS: NORTHERN IRELAND

The Prime Minister has considered your submission of 3 June enclosing the revised text of the British proposal following the meeting of OD(I) on 23 May. She has also noted the views of a number of her colleagues who have subsequently minuted.

The Prime Minister agrees with the Northern Ireland Secretary that it is essential to have written into the agreement a specific review clause. She rather doubts whether it would be possible to limit such a review to the working of the proposed Standing Inter-Governmental Committee and thinks that it would probably have to apply to the agreement as a whole. She would be grateful if you could propose language drawing on the Northern Ireland Secretary's suggestion and circulate it to members of OD(I).

I am copying this minute to the Private Secretaries to Members of OD(I).

C D POWELL

10 June 1985

SECRET AND PERSONAL

29A

MO 19/3

NBPM
CDP
12/6

PRIME MINISTER

ANGLO-IRISH RELATIONS: NORTHERN IRELAND

I have seen Sir Robert Armstrong's minute to you of 3rd June.

2. I agree with his reasoning on the two points discussed in the submission and, subject to colleagues' views, I am content for the revised text to be put to the Irish at official level.

3. I am sending copies of this minute to other members of OD(I) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Ministry of Defence
10th June 1985

IRELAND : Relations : PT 8