



[REDACTED]

MAGILLIGAN HUNGER STRIKE

1. Following a meeting with Mr Robinson and [REDACTED] on Friday 5 October, which ended at 1730 hours, the 10 Loyalist prisoners announced the formal ending of their action.
2. The prisoners issued a statement of the reasons they had taken this decision, a copy of which, with a typed version, is attached. It is interesting to note that although they had been taking food since 25 September, the statement is headed Loyalist Hunger Strike - Day 47. The statement is very unlikely to be the work of the prisoners and was almost certainly brought to the prison by Mr Robinson, who had attended a meeting of the Committee for Loyalist Prisoners' Rights that morning.

[REDACTED]

Prison Regimes I

[REDACTED]

October 1984

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr Jackson

[REDACTED]

ENC

AJ 9 OCT 1984

HM Prison
MAGILLIGAN

5th October 1984

LOYALIST HUNGER STRIKE

DAY 47

We, the ten Loyalist prisoners in Magilligan, who have participated in the hunger strike protest agree to end our fast today in recognition of developments which clearly demonstrate that more than ever before there is an understanding in the community and in Government that measures must be taken to ensure greater safety for Loyalist prisoners in this jail. Moreover there is an increasing acceptance, underlined by the vote in the NI Assembly, that a system of separation operating under the control of the prison administration is the best way of achieving the safety which is our right.

In arriving at our decision we have been particularly influenced by eight factors:-

1. The communication from the Secretary of State which undertakes to implement some immediate interim steps in advance of further changes presently being considered.
2. The agreement of the Minister for Prisons to continue consultations and assessments with Mr Robinson and [REDACTED]
3. The unanimity of the NI Assembly which is the democratically elected voice of the Ulster people.
4. The solemn undertaking given by dozens of leading NI citizens to "actively press" for measures to be taken for our safety.
5. The presentation of our application to the Commission of Human Rights.
6. The submission of our claims against the Governor to be heard by the local courts.
7. The advice tendered to us by the Committee for Loyalist Prisoners Rights.
8. The widespread acceptance of our case by the Ulster public and their concern for our welfare.

We wish to thank the CLPR for their tireless work on our behalf during the present hunger strike especially as we know they did not agree with our use of this form of protest.

We would particularly like to express our appreciation to Mr Peter Robinson and [REDACTED] for their endeavours in working for a resolution to the hunger strike and the issue that prompted it.

In terminating our protest we await the implementation of the steps being considered by the NIO and put in trust to those who have pledged to pursue our cause the accomplishment of measures to protect our lives - our safety is in their hands.

