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Title: Letter from Ulster Unionist MP Captain John Brooke to Taoiseach Jack Lynch, regarding the Northern Ireland situation and enclosing a Northern Ireland government White Paper on a record of constructive change, a Consultative Document on the future development of the parliament and government of Northern Ireland, and a speech by Northern Ireland Prime Minister Brian Faulkner on the opening of the Stormont debate on the above.

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11 December 1971

Dear

Prime Minister

You may be surprised in present circumstances to receive this letter from the Unionist Party in Northern Ireland. It must, however, by now be apparent to everyone that the violence in Northern Ireland from which we have already suffered so much, gravely threatens the stability and social fabric of the Republic of Ireland also. This is a moment when a miscalculation or any course of action based on emotion and sentiment rather than on fact and on logic may do enormous harm, even putting innocent lives at risk.

We know that the point of view of the majority in Northern Ireland, and of its political representatives, is not always available to Members of the Dail. To make sure that you receive this at first hand and undistorted I am sending you a few basic documents, with this letter, which set out important aspects of current policy in Northern Ireland. These are:-

1. the White Paper, a record of constructive change;
2. the Consultative Document on the Future Development of the Parliament and Government of Northern Ireland;
3. the Speech of Mr Faulkner in opening the Stormont Debate on the above Consultative Document.

It is my hope that you will consider these documents objectively and compare them with what you know of any comparable efforts being made in the Republic.

If, in return, there is any information which you would wish to communicate to us I would be glad to have it. It is my belief that a better knowledge of developments and policies on both sides of the Border can only contribute to attitudes more soundly based on realism and commonsense.

Yours sincerely

John Brooke

J W BROOKE