

MEETINGS WITH CHAIRMAN 28.8.75

A. PRESENT: Chairman Mr Corbett
 Dr Oliver Mr Williamson
 Mr Blackburn
 Dr Hayes

1. Tactics for Chairman's meeting with UUUC negotiators discussed and agreed. Agreed to consider present position of talks, clarification of UU document, US Presidential System and a suggestion for an interim arrangement which would ensure strong civil government while the discussions on a constitution were carried on in another forum.
2. Mr Blackburn agreed to consider tactics on a return to plenary sessions for recommendation to the Business Committee.
3. Agreed to meet parties separately again on Monday.

B. PRESENT: as above

1. Review of Chairman's discussion with UUUC negotiators. Chairman expressed satisfaction at the attitude displayed by the negotiators and the atmosphere in which the talks were conducted.
2. Tactics for Chairman's meeting with SDLP negotiators discussed and agreed. Agreed that SDLP were in low spirits and needed to be built up - Chairman to cheer them up and encourage them to make a positive response to UUUC by submission of proposals and papers. Agreed that tactic should be to encourage them to do most of the talking in order to force them to formulate and declare ideas which they might regard as acceptable.
3. Agreed to meet parties separately again at least twice before bringing them together. The aim should be to move to phase 2 by Wednesday leaving some time to secure some outline basis of agreement before Monday, by which time a decision must be taken on the resumption of plenary sessions on Tuesday, 9th. Agreed that in circumstances in which an optimistic announcement might safely be made (and only then) that the talks would reach a successful conclusion within a few more days, the plenary sessions should be postponed. In the meantime the Business Committee could proceed with arrangements for a plenary session.

