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Mr Bell

M. J. ...
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- cc: PS/Secretary of State (L&B)
- PS/Ministers (L&B)
- PS/PUS (L&B)
- PS/Mr Bloomfield *10/4*
- Mr Brennan
- Mr Stephens
- Mr Innes
- Mr Chesterton
- Mr Elliott
- Miss Elliott
- Mr Blackwell
- Mr Radcliffe
- Mr G Hewitt
- Mr Clark (FCO)

RBS 6314



IC(86)2: JOINT RECORD

I attach the final version of the Joint Record of the last Conference Meeting held on 11th March. I should be grateful if you would arrange for distribution as appropriate.

S Hewitt

S G Hewitt

09 April 1986

CONFIDENTIAL

ANGLO-IRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

JOINT RECORD OF REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
11 MARCH 1986 IN STORMONT CASTLE, BELFAST

Participants:

	<u>British Side</u>	<u>Irish Side</u>
Joint Chairmen	Mr. Tom King	Mr. Peter Barry
Ministerial	Mr. Nicholas Scott	Mr. Alan Dukes
Officials	Mr. Ken Bloomfield Mr. Anthony Brennan Mr. Tony Stephens Mr. David Gilliland Mr. Jim Daniell Mr. Gerald Clark	Mr. Sean Donlon Mr. Andrew Ward Mr. Eamonn O Tuathail Mr. Declan O Donovan Mr. Richard O'Brien
Police	Sir John Hermon	Mr. Laurence Wren
Secretariat	Mr. Mark Elliott Mr. Stephen Hewitt Miss Valerie Steele	Mr. Michael Lillis Mr. Daithi O Ceallaigh Mr. Noel Ryan

Cross-Border Security Co-operation

1. A report by the Secretariat (copy attached) had been circulated. The Chief Constable and the Commissioner reported on progress in the programme of work envisaged under Article 9(a) of the Agreement. Study groups had been established and had held meetings recently; further meetings had been arranged. The working parties had been asked to report to their chief officers by 15 April. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with progress to date and their determination that tangible results should be achieved in the near future.

Article 7(c): Relations Between the Security Forces and the Minority Community

2. The Chief Constable introduced his paper on the subject, copies of which had been given to the Irish side. He described the action which had been taken in the RUC during recent years in this field, and outlined some of the measures which had been taken in developing relations with the community and in improving the recruitment of members of the minority community. The Chief Constable also outlined the steps which had been taken since the early part of 1985 towards the drawing up of a Code of Conduct for the RUC, and said that a second draft of the Code was about to be circulated to the sub-committee of the Police Authority for consideration later by the full Authority. For this and other reasons, the British side indicated that it would be useful from the point of view of nationalist concerns if names were submitted by the Irish side for the Police Authority.

3. In discussion, the Irish side emphasised the importance which they attached to early progress in drawing up a programme of special measures in this field, with the aim of increasing the confidence of the minority community in the RUC and increasing the proportion of the minority in the RUC. They expressed disappointment at the rate of progress so far on this issue by comparison with some other issues which the Conference had discussed. It was also their understanding during negotiations on the Agreement that a Code of Conduct would be finalised very shortly. The Irish side said it was willing to put forward suggestions on ways in which progress might be achieved and it was agreed to do so informally through the Secretariat; these suggestions would then be examined by the British side, consulting the Police Authority as appropriate.

4. The British side suggested that there might prove to be elements in the RUC programme which were suitable for application within the Irish jurisdiction, in accordance with

the last sentence of Article 7(c). The Irish side pointed out that in their view, measures proposed by the Irish Government in relation to police complaints went further, and would be seen to go further, in terms of independent investigation, than the current proposals for Northern Ireland. At his request a copy of the Irish Bill was given to the British Co-Chairman.

5. The British side asked about progress in submitting names for the Police Authority. The Irish side said that they had hoped to have names to propose that day, but recent events had caused delay. They hoped to submit names shortly.

6. In response to a question from the Irish side, the British side said that up-to-date information on the accompaniment of Army patrols by the RUC would be furnished through the Secretariat in the very near future. The information would relate to operations which involve direct contact with the community.

7. The Irish side enquired about progress on the Stalker Report. The British side replied that it was at present with the DPP. They were aware of the desirability of moving forward as rapidly as possible.

8. In connection with prisons, the British side said that they would shortly be giving to the Irish side through the Secretariat the results of a recent review of Secretary of State's pleasure cases.

Legal Matters

9. A report by the Secretariat was circulated (copy attached). The British side expressed regret at the delay in arranging Working Group meetings, and undertook to offer dates for early and frequent meetings of both groups. The Irish side explained the political necessity, in connection with the plans for legislation required for the ratification of the

European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, for the working group on the administration of justice to show progress.

Economic and Social

10. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the illustrative list of cross-border economic and social projects as circulated should be annexed to the Joint Statement. The Irish side would present a paper on tourism through the Secretariat for comment by the British side with a view to a discussion at the next meeting of the Conference.

11. The Irish side spoke in general terms on the question of matters significantly or especially affecting the minority community in the fields of education, health and housing. The British side explained the constraints on public expenditure in Northern Ireland. The Irish side presented a paper on Divis Flats. The British side undertook to consider this.

Flags and Emblems

12. The British side explained the process of legislation in Parliament relating to public order issues in Great Britain, and its relationship to subsequent legislation for Northern Ireland by Order in Council which might serve as a vehicle for the repeal of the Flags and Emblems Act if it were to be decided that this was desirable and acceptable at the time.

Agenda for Next Meeting, and Joint Statement

13. A Joint Statement was agreed, including a paragraph containing an indication of the likely subjects for discussion at the next full meeting of the Conference. A copy of the Statement is attached.

ANGLO-IRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE: 11 MARCH 1986

JOINT STATEMENT

1. The Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Conference met in Belfast on 11 March 1986. The British Joint Chairman, Mr Tom King MP, was accompanied by Mr Nicholas Scott MP: the Irish Joint Chairman, Mr Peter Barry TD, was accompanied by Mr Alan Dukes TD. The Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the Commissioner of the Garda Siochana, and officials were also present.
2. The Chief Constable and the Commissioner gave a presentation on the progress made by the two police forces in implementing the provisions of the Agreement for enhancing cross-border co-operation on security matters. They described work currently in progress in areas including the preparation of threat assessments, the exchange of information, the creation of liaison structures, technical co-operation and training. The Irish side reported on recent substantial discoveries of arms within the Irish jurisdiction. The Conference welcomed the development of contacts between the two police forces and between officials concerned with security questions, and the plans for these contacts to continue.
- 3.1 In the context of the need identified in Article 7(c) of the Agreement for a programme of special measures in Northern Ireland to improve relations between the security forces and the community, the Chief Constable provided further information about the practice of the RUC in developing relations with the minority community in such areas as local consultative machinery, training in community relations, crime prevention schemes involving the public, arrangements for handling complaints and action to increase the proportion of members of the minority community in the RUC.
- 3.2 Areas for further development in this field were identified, which would contribute to the programme of special measures, on which the two sides would continue to work together.
4. The Conference heard a report of the meeting held on 13

February to discuss legal matters including the administration of justice. The British side welcomed the Irish decision to sign the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism in Strasbourg on 24 February.

5. There was a discussion of cross-border co-operation in the economic and social fields. The extent and variety of existing co-operation were noted and it was agreed to look in particular at the question of tourism at a future meeting of the Conference. An illustrative list of existing cross-border co-operation projects and activities is attached to this statement. There was also a further discussion about the prospects of international assistance for economic and social development.

6. The Irish side put forward views on matters of significant or especial interest to the minority community in relation to economic and social policy, in the fields of education, health and housing. The British side undertook to consider these views, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement. The views of other interested parties expressed outside the Conference would also be taken into account.

7. Responding to the Irish views and proposals put forward at an earlier meeting about the Flags and Emblems (Display) Act, the British side described the draft legislation relating to public order in Great Britain currently before Parliament (the Public Order Bill), and explained the desirability of bringing the existing public order legislation for Northern Ireland into line so far as possible with that for Great Britain. The question of flags and emblems in Northern Ireland would be addressed in the context of the extension as appropriate, by Order in Council, of this draft legislation to Northern Ireland.

8. The Conference agreed that at its next meeting it would consider further progress reports on cross-border security co-operation and on the development of relations between the security forces in Northern Ireland and the community; progress reports from the groups of officials set up under Article 8 of the Agreement to discuss extradition, the possible harmonisation of areas of the criminal law, and the search for measures to enhance

public confidence in the administration of justice; and cross-border economic and social co-operation, with particular reference to tourism.

CROSS-BORDER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

1. Economic

- Tourism
 - regular contact on various projects.
- Youth Training
 - cross-border exchanges of trainees.
- EC-assisted joint training projects
 - various projects supported by the European Social Fund
- Industrial Science Co-operation
 - joint compilation of directories of expertise and services, by Co-Operation North.
- Marketing
 - joint participation in industrial promotions/exhibitions.
- Industrial Relations
 - mutual exchange of industrial relations experience.
- Employment Equality
 - regular contact on common issues.
- Petroleum Exploration
 - exchange of information on exploration in areas straddling the border.
- National Economic and Social Council/Northern Ireland Economic Council
 - co-operation on matters of mutual interest.
- Industrial Design
 - joint co-operation.

2. Infrastructure and Services

- Newry/Dundalk Road
 - joint consideration of improved road links.
- Water Services
 - reciprocal arrangements on water services in border areas.

3. Transport

- Freight Haulage Licensing
 - licensing of cross-border hauliers.
- Motor Vehicle Administration
 - general liaison in relation to motor vehicle registration.
- Transport Companies
 - regular contacts on road and rail issues of mutual interest.
- Commissioners of Irish Lights
 - maintenance of lights and navigational aids.
- Marine Search and Rescue
 - operational liaison and co-operation.
- Road Safety
 - regular contacts

4. Agriculture and Fisheries

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| Trade in agricultural produce | - co-operation on trade and EC funds including abuses. |
| Animal plant and fish health | - co-operation to maintain/improve disease status. |
| Drainage | - co-ordination of complementary programmes. |
| Foyle Fisheries Commission | - joint administration of Foyle Salmon Fisheries. |
| Sea Fisheries | - Discussions about fishing limits. |
| Timber utilisation | - exchanges of information on marketing and development. |
| Horse breeding and racing | - joint administration of breeding scheme and regulation of racing. |

5. Health and Social Security

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| Medicines and Food Control | - co-operation on cross-border control. |
| Availability of Health Services | - liaison in relation to the provision of health services. |
| Medical self-certification of ESSP scheme | - exchange of information and experience. |
| Social Security reform and computerisation. | - exchange of information and experience. |
| Social Security Fraud | - co-operation to counter cross-border fraud. |
| Health Board co-operation in North West | - cross-border liaison on health services. |
| Nuclear Radiation | - exchange of information and regular liaison. |
| Infectious and contagious diseases | - exchange of information and concerted action. |
| Medical and Dental manpower | - exchange of information on mutual manpower problems. |

6. Education

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| School teachers and inspector exchanges | - regular exchanges. |
| Higher education | - co-operation between Higher Education Institutions. |
| Teacher Qualifications | - consideration of reciprocal recognition. |
| Museums, libraries and films | - regular exchanges. |

Youth Affairs

History Seminars for teachers

European Studies (Ireland^{and GB.})

- co-operation in youth exchanges.
- joint educational seminars.
- shared curriculum development.

7. Environmental

Environmental Protection

Planning

Conservation

Historic Monuments and Buildings

- joint meetings on pollution, water quality etc.
- joint co-operation on issues straddling the border.
- joint ecological considerations.
- joint contact on archaeology and historic buildings.

6. Taxation

Inland Revenue

Enforcement of Revenue matters

Customs Procedures and Documentation

- operational contacts.
- operational contacts.
- operational contacts.

9. Joint Studies

EC-assisted cross-border

Lough Melvin Study

North/West Study

- joint studies supported by the European Regional Development Fund.
- joint consideration of environmental study.
- joint consideration of proposals by an independent study group.

10. Arts, Sports & Cultural

Sport

Voluntary Organisations in Community Relations

Arts Councils co-operation

Public Records

- development of cross-border co-operation on sporting activities.
- wide range of bodies supported by both Governments.
- frequent exchanges and practical co-operation.
- links at official and university levels on historical

record matters.

II. Miscellaneous

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| District Council contacts | - regular contacts on matters of mutual interest in border areas. |
| Fire and Emergency Services | - operational liaison in cross-border areas. |
| Natural Disaster.
Contingency Planning | - exchange of information. |
| Ordnance Surveys | - contacts on mutual survey problems and joint publication. |
| Metereological Service | - operational liaison. |
| General Register Office | - liaison in relation to registration of births, deaths and marriages and other census matters. |
| Irish Soldiers and Sailors
Land Trust | - co-operation on the Trust and its future. |
| Training Conferences | - joint conferences/visits between public service training centres. |

/JH

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ANGLO-IRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

Legal Matters- including the Administration of Justice

Report by Secretariat

1. A Ministerial sub-group of the Conference met in London on 13 February 1986 to discuss legal matters including the administration of justice. A copy of the joint record of that meeting, including a list of the participants, is attached.
2. The sub-group formally approved the establishment of two working groups of officials to take forward the programme of work envisaged in Article 8 of the Agreement. There was a preliminary review of issues which each side had proposed for early discussion in the working groups. Working Group I will deal with questions relating to the administration of justice. Working Group II will deal with criminal law matters including policy aspects of extradition.
3. It is intended that the first meetings of both working groups will be held in London in the coming weeks. The second meetings of both groups will be held in Dublin.

10 March 1986

ANGLO-IRISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

Cross-Border Security Cooperation

Report by Secretariat

1. At its second regular meeting on 10 January 1986 the Conference noted, in the context of a discussion of cross-border security cooperation, that the preparation of a programme of work as envisaged in Article 9(a) of the Agreement was continuing and would be placed before the Conference as soon as possible.
2. On 13 February 1986 the Secretary of State and Mr. Nicholas Scott had an informal meeting in London with Mr. Michael Noonan then Minister for Justice to review progress. It was agreed that it would be desirable that a group comprising senior police officers, including the Chief Constable and the Commissioner, and officials, as well as representatives of the Joint Secretariat, should meet from time to time to discuss aspects of the work programme.
3. The first meeting of that group, at which progress on the preparation of the programme of work was reviewed, was held in Stormont on 25 February (a list of the participants is attached as an Appendix). The Chief Constable and the Commissioner decided to allocate specific areas of the work, under the general headings set out in Article 9(a), to designated senior officers from each police force. The intention is that those officers will report to their chief officers by 15 April, if possible. Since that meeting, a meeting of senior police officers was held in Belfast on 28 February and further meetings at senior police level are envisaged.

10 March 1986

Meeting on Security Co-operation, Stormont Castle,

25 February 1986

PATRICIPANTS

Irish Side

Garda

Mr. L. Wren
Commissioner

Mr. S. Fanning
Assistant Commissioner

Department of Justice

Mr. D. Matthews
Mr. J. Kirby

Secretariat

Mr. N. Ryan

British side

RUC

Sir John Hermon
Chief Constable

Mr. D. Cushley
Senior Assistant Chief
Constable

Mr. E. Henry
Chief Superintendent

N.I.O

Mr. A. W. Stephens
Mr. W. Innes

Secretariat

Mr. S. Hewitt