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30 January 1992

REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE CONSTITUENCY REPRESENTATIVES GROUP  
HELD IN PARTY HEADQUARTERS ON FRIDAY, 17 JANUARY, 1992

- 1.1 ATTENDANCE: J. Hendron, J. Hume, S. Mallon,  
D. McClelland, A. Doherty, G. Murphy,  
A. Hegarty, D. Field, G. Leonard, D. Haughey,  
A. Maginness, B. Rodgers, E.K. McGrady,  
A. McDonnell, S. Farren.
- 1.2 APOLOGIES: M. Durkan
- 1.3 IN ATTENDANCE: G. Cosgrove
- 2.1 MINUTES: D. McClelland said that he had not spoken on  
the Brooke Clinic at the last meeting of the Constituency  
Representatives Group.
- 2.2 The minutes were adopted on the proposal of D. McClelland  
seconded by D. Haughey.
- 3.1 MATTERS ARISING: A. Hegarty enquired if the General  
Secretary had attended a reception at Stormont Castle  
for South African diplomats. It was reported that he had  
not attended.
- 4.1 REPORTS: J. Hume reported on a meeting with the Secretary  
of State and new pre-conditions put forward by the  
unionists. J. Hume made it clear that the SDLP position  
was that talks should take place after the election on  
exactly the same basis as before irrespective of whether  
there was a change in government.

The SOS had arranged a meeting of the four Party Leaders  
for that same day but the meeting did not take place.

Unionists had embarked on a PR session and the SDLP were  
being blamed for hindering the talks process.

The view was also expressed that there was an anti-politics  
theme emerging and that the the Party should push its  
record on socio-economic issues and that the two sovereign  
governments work closely together. It was particularly  
important that the Party have good PR at this time.

- 5.1 ROLE OF P MCGLONE: A discussion was held on the position  
of P. McGlone within the Party. J. Hume explained that he  
was the Press Officer to the SDLP Delegation to the  
Socialist Group of the European Parliament.

It was agreed that the General Purposes and Finance  
Committee deal with this issue.

6.1 ISSUES: It was indicated that MPs needed help in relation to papers on various issues. A. Hegarty said that the Policy Committee could help in certain areas and she agreed to do a briefing paper on the Trade Union Bill.

6.2 OPTIONS ON 24 MOUNT CHARLES: D. Field explained the options which had been put forward in relation to 24 Mount Charles. The Party Executive had agreed on Option D and this was in the process of being implemented.

7.1 CANDIDATES' MEETING: The Executive had recommended that the Constituency Representatives call a meeting of candidates in the forthcoming Westminster election. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss various aspects of the campaign and how the campaign should be run.  
Action: J. Hendron to liaise with the Chairman of the Party

8.1 PARTY ORGANISATION: G. Murphy referred to branch records which he had circulated to members of the Constituency Representatives and he asked Constituency Representatives to contact him regarding same.

Meeting ended.