

NORTHERN IRELAND FORUM

[REDACTED]
COOKSTOWN
County Tyrone
[REDACTED]

15th July 1996

Mr John Major MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON

Dear Mr Major,

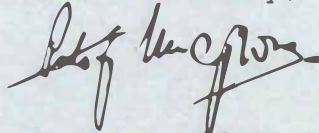
as a member returned for the Constituency of Mid-Ulster in the 30th May election, I wish to notify you that I have resigned from the Northern Ireland Forum forthwith in protest at the behaviour which passes for government in the north of Ireland. Indeed that behaviour is an absolute insult to the basic dignity and human rights of the many decent people who live here.

In light of last week's events, I have two basic questions for you:-

1. Who now governs the state as it is more than apparent that major decisions are at the whim of loyalist mob rule and intimidation?
2. Who can police the state in an impartial manner? The RUC exposed itself as incapable of delivering an impartial policing service to all communities. Last week that force proved itself unwilling to prevent threats, intimidation obstruction of public highways and other illegal loyalist behaviour over four days. Their treatment of that outright menace was in stark contrast to the obvious relish officers took in using physical force to clear a short peaceful protest from the Garvaghy Road in Portadown and to impose a block curfew on the Ormeau Road - in order to facilitate the very people who were threatening the stability of the state all week! Is your government therefore now clearly committed to a policy of maintenance of a partisan police force exclusively to enforce and impose the will of one community upon another, a will which, I might add, was clearly underwritten with the threat of further violence?

Following the week in which your government forfeited any claim it had to govern in the interests of all the people of the North, instead abandoning the place to the rule of the mob, I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



PATSY McGLONE
(Mid-Ulster Representative)