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4 December 1995

Dick Spring TD Tanist and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dublin 2

Dear Mr Spring, '

I received today your letter of 1 December.

I wonder on what basis you write.

As you know we in the Ulster Unionist Party do not accept the Anglo Irish agreement, which violates the norms of interstate agreements and International law. Nor did we endorse the Communique which you enclose. Indeed we made clear to Her Majesty's Government and the general public that we do not consider the so called preparatory talks track of that Communique to be the best way forward.

I am always ready to hear any proposals you may have for nor-malising relations between the Republic of Ireland and this part of the United Kingdom, ie the removal of your illegal, aggressive territorial claim and the replacement of the 1985 Agreement with one consistent with modern international practice. But we are not prepared to negotiate the internal affairs of Northern Ireland with a foreign government.

Sincerely

David Trimble MP

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Leader of the Party: MR. DAVID TRIMBLE, LLB, BL, MP Fairon: COLONEL JAMES G CUNNINGHAM, OBE. DL President: JOSIAS CUNNINGHAM, MA. DL Chief Executive: JIM WILSON