

An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

Reference Code: 2021/100/10

Creator(s): Department of the Taoiseach

Accession Conditions: Open

Copyright: National Archives, Ireland. May only be

reproduced with the written permission of the

Director of the National Archives.

AN RÚNAÍOCHT ANGLA-ÉIREANNACH BÉAL FEIRSTE ANGLO-IRISH SECRETARIAT
BELFAST

Secure Fax: 530

DATE: 14 May 1998

NO. OF PAGES (including this one): 3

TO:

Secretary Gallagher Anglo-Irish Division

FROM: Kieran Dowling

SUBJECT: Prime Minister's speech

The British side have provided the attached two-page note which, they say, was drafted by Jonathan Stephens for use by the Secretary of State in handling questions on the Prime Minister's speech in Belfast this afternoon.

es proposes proce la la demonde per person la tal la partir de la partir dela partir de la partir de la partir de la partir de la partir dela partir de la partir de la partir de la partir de la partir dela partir de la partir dela partir de la partir de la partir de la partir dela partir dela partir dela partir de la partir de la partir dela partir

530/2

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH: POINTS TO MAKE

Key positive points

- A yea vote is a yes to hope, to peace, to stability and to prosperity.
- Prime Minister values the union. Acceptance of principle of consent by all is a fundamental shift in the political landscape.
- No fudge between democracy and terror. We will make safeguards in agreement stick.
- Fruits of agreement only available to those who have given up violence for good. Prime Minister setting out factors to be taken into account in reaching overall judgements on this.
- Cannot be reduced to a judgement on a single issue. But must be clear that
 there needs to be confidence that violence really is over. So these factors will
 be reflected in legislation.

Defensive Q&A

Adding to the Agreement?

No - just clarifying factors to be taken into account in reaching judgements called for in the Agreement. Agreement requires:

- commitment to exclusively peaceful means (pledge of office, paras 23-25, page 7);
- complete and unequivocal ceasefire (prisoners, para 2, page 25);

APDL/334