

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

IRELAND



Reference Code:	2015/89/85
Creation Date(s):	3 December 1985
Extent and medium:	1 page
Creator(s):	Department of the Taoiseach
Access Conditions:	Open
Copyright:	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

Luncheon speech in Brussels by Mr. Tom King, Secretary of State
for Northern Ireland, Tuesday, 3rd December, 1985, to Businessmen
at inauguration of a Northern Ireland Trade Mission.

In Northern Ireland now we have signed an agreement in which the Prime Minister of the Republic of Ireland, notwithstanding the fact that he faces or has to live with a Constitution that has aspirations about sovereignty over the North of Ireland, has in fact accepted that for all practical purposes and into perpetuity there will never be a united Ireland. Because he has accepted that the principle of consent that the will of the majority in Northern Ireland must predominate and therefore that Northern Ireland which is our fervent wish remains part of the U.K.. But within that situation there is a minority community who have other aspirations and who are as entitled as anybody else provided they pursue their aspirations by Constitutional means; they are as entitled as anybody else to have their voice heard.

ENDS.