

# NATIONAL ARCHIVES

## IRELAND



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# ROINN AN TAOISIGH

Uimhir 524404

CONFIDENTIAL

*Taoiseach  
to all places  
of  
21/11*

During the course of an informal discussion at lunch in London yesterday, Mr. Ken Bloomfield, Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service, made the following points to me:-

*1. Mr. Ken Bloomfield  
2. Mr. McCarthy  
see in  
Taoiseach  
the  
to  
21/11*

- there is considerable unease in the unionist community in the aftermath of the Agreement and there is, in his view, a need to restore some balance very quickly;
- the attitude of the SDLP is now vital. They need to take some positive steps which the unionist community will regard as positive e.g. public support for the RUC. The filling of the vacancies on the Police Authority would be another move in the right direction; and
- he appreciated the SDLP's difficulties in relation to the Assembly. The Assembly was now in jeopardy because of unionist non co-operation with British Ministers etc.. In the event of new elections the SDLP would have to seriously consider some formula which would bring them into the process - even if they were to accept an advisory role in relation to any new Assembly it would help.

Mr. Bloomfield spoke in quite forceful terms on all these points. I was in London as part of a delegation headed by the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs to discuss with the NIO aspects of proposals in relation to international support for the Agreement.

Brian McCarthy

21st November, 1985.

c.c. Mr. D. Nally and Mr. S. Donlon.

*In H...  
R. Ke...  
27/11/85*