



An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)

10 April 1998

A GOOD DAY FOR THE UNION

1. We have brought to an end the Anglo-Irish Agreement and the Maryfield Secretariat – the institution which enabled the Irish Republic to interfere in our internal affairs.
2. We have obtained again a regional Assembly, returning democratic control of Northern Ireland to its people; after 25 years of political stagnation, frustration and powerlessness we have the chance to create a vibrant, inclusive political system.
3. The territorial claim of the Irish Republic to Northern Ireland has gone, as has the constitutional imperative to unification.
4. The Act of Union which establishes Northern Ireland as part of the United Kingdom has been maintained intact.
5. Provision has been made for co-operation with the Irish Republic on the basis of agreed, friendly co-operation.
6. The North-South Council providing for this co-operation, far from being a free-standing body with independent executive powers – an embryonic all-Ireland government – will have decisions taken by council representatives accountable to the Northern Ireland Assembly and on a basis of unanimity.
7. The interdependency of the British Isles is reflected in the British-Irish Council, which includes representatives of Wales and Scotland as well as Northern Ireland and the British and Irish Governments and the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.
8. An atmosphere of optimism about the future, both in economic and political terms, will make it difficult for terrorism to be renewed on the scale of most of the last 30 years.
9. The RUC will not be disbanded and its service and sacrifice will be recognised.

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